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Palestinian Affairs

Qaddumi Says War To Spread To Islamic Countries

AU3101180491 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1700 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Armin Wolf report on statements by Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO Political Department, made at meeting with Austrian Foreign Minister Mock in Vienna on 31 January 1991; Qaddumi statements in English—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] This afternoon in Vienna, Austrian Foreign Minister Mock met Faruq Qaddumi, the quasi-foreign minister of the PLO. Qaddumi is regarded as one of the closest advisers to PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat. Alois Mock wanted to get some information from Qaddumi about the recent developments in the Near East.

[Wolf] At the beginning of the Gulf conflict, the PLO still wanted to mediate between Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Today the PLO clearly supports one side. We are not neutral, PLO Foreign Minister Qaddumi says.

[Qaddumi] We are not neutral, we stand with Iraq 100 percent against the United States.

[Wolf] Qaddumi argues that not only has the PLO's international reputation not been damaged by this declaration of solidarity with Saddam Husayn, it has even improved. He is not worried that Saddam Husayn might be defeated in this war.

[Qaddumi] We are very sure that he will not be defeated. This is a long war.

[Wolf] The Gulf war will even spread to the other Islamic countries, and the situation is dangerous, Qaddumi states. The United States is responsible for this conflict, because Saddam Husayn was ready to negotiate, Qaddumi says. Qaddumi does not regret Iraqi missile attacks against Israel.

[Qaddumi] To fight our enemy is something that would please us.

[Wolf] As far as the missiles are concerned that have been launched from Palestinian camps in soutnern Lebanon against Israel for some days, Qaddumi says:

[Qaddumi] We have been attacked, we retaliate.

Milhim Says Palestinians Ready To Aid Saddam

JN3101135091 Amman THE STAR in English 31 Jan-6 Feb 91 p 2

[By STAR staff writer Hamdan al-Haj]

[Text] Member of the PLO's Executive Committee Mr Muhammad Milhim, has said that Palestinian cadres are under the disposal of President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi people. "They are ready to implement any operation at the request of the Iraqi leadership."

In an interview with the Star, the exiled Palestinian leader from Halhul, said that President George Bush had miscalculated the real strength of Iraq and its leadership and "he chose the wrong way to deal with the crisis because the Zionist lobby and Israel convinced him to launch war against Iraq."

He said that Israel had convinced President Bush that he could repeat Israel's 1967 defeat of three Arab countries within hours.

"But after ten days, the United Sates and its allies, including Israel, were unable to restore one inch of Kuwaiti territory, neither have they succeeded in destroying Iraq's forces," said Mr Milhim.

He said Jordan's stand on the Gulf crisis was the most appropriate way to solve the problem. He praised His Majesty King Husayn's position and said Jordan took a neutral stand from the beginning of the crisis.

Mr Milhim said that the Jordan-PLO relationship is better than at any previous time. "The people are of one nation fighting for one cause, every Palestinian official and non official is ready to fight for the sake of His Majesty King Husayn and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan."

The Palestinian official promised to avenge those killed by United States and allied troops. "Arabs will take revenge on their enemies anywhere," he said.

Mr Milhim expressed his hope that war will stop and a peaceful settlement will be reached to end all conflicts of the region beginning with the Palestinian issue, "which is the crux of the middle East problems." He said international legality should be applied on all conflicts.

He said the Palestine Question is well into its 25th year with tens of Security Council and General Assembly resolutions adopted to its favour, but none were implemented. But The Gulf crisis is five months old and already we have 11 resolutions, Security Council resolutions which the United States is in a hurry to implement. Why?"

He said the reason for this is America's interests, mainly oil and the security of Israel. The main aim is to destroy Iraq, Mr Milhim said.

DFLP Leader Hawatimah Interviewed on War

PM0102111491 Paris LE MONDE in French 1 Feb 91 p 8

[Interview with Nayif Hawatimah, Secretary General of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, DFLP, by Georges Marion in Algiers—date not given]

[Text] Algiers—Although the Gulf war is partly being waged in their name, the Palestinians in the PLO are noting with bitterness that they have no influence over its course. They have never been pushed so much into the background in the political sphere as they are now.

But they have the advantage of having had frequent contact with President Saddam Husayn and of thus being able to try to use their good offices.

On a brief visit to Algiers where he met, among others, with President Chadli Bendjedid, whose country is trying to reestablish the diplomatic link between Iraq and the allies, Nayif Hawatimah, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, readily admitted that: "The crisis is taking a tragic turn," he said, "leading to destruction on a massive scale. The Americans are attacking, Iraq is defending itself and, in such a context, it is difficult to see the outlines of a future compromise." Mr. Hawatimah thinks, however, we must already take a postwar view and seek the elements of negotiations which are as necessary as they are inevitable.

"This is an urgent matter," he said. "Negotiations have more chance of being successful now, despite the bombing, than in three weeks time." Mr. Hawatimah who, like other PLO leadership members, has met with Saddam Husayn several times, stated categorically: "Make no mistake, the Iraqi resistance will last months, and anybody who thinks otherwise is sorely mistaken. Local history shows that the psychology of the Iraqi people and their Army is simple: To resist. Even if there are some desertions, Iraq, which has 1 million men under arms, will not be affected by them. Such desertions were observed in the conflict with Iran without changing the course of the war."

So what is the significance of the flight of Iraqi aircraft to Iran? Mr. Hawatimah, who is not in a position to confirm the possible execution of Baghdad's air force and air defense chiefs, is doubtful: "In this specific case, I do not think these are desertions, but rather the result of technical problems. The planes probably could not land in Iraq because the runways had been bombed. Their pilots preferred to save their planes, even if they are held abroad, rather than run the risk of having them destroyed."

Although no expert would venture to guarantee that Iraq does not have nuclear weapons, the DFLP leader categorically stated that President Saddam Husayn intends to use all the weapons in his possession. "Saddam often told us: The whole Iraqi chemical, biological, and even nuclear arsenal could be used. It will be used depending on the development of the fighting and of negotiations. For the time being, the Iraqis do not need to use any arms but the ones they are now using, but if a land front opens we will see that he could go a very long way.

"The ecological crisis which we are experiencing, with the oil slick, is just a foretaste. Unfortunately, this 'little slick' is nothing compared with the pollution which he plans to cause when land operations start. Obviously that is a double-edged sword which could lead to negotiations or, instead, block them. He is aware of that, but if he is not given any alternative but to fight with his back to the wall, if he has no other prospect of extricating himself, he will carry on to the end."

Mr. Hawatimah does not underestimate the problems of negotiations but, he thinks, "it is up to the allies to show enough wisdom for two, it is up to them to be more flexible. The great powers have responsibilities precisely because they are great powers. It is inconceivable that they should be relentless against a little country like Iraq. Saddam can take the escalation a long way, there is nothing to hold him back."

According to Mr. Hawatimah and his PLO comrades, starting a peace process means first persuading the nonaligned countries, the Maghreb, Europe—especially France—China, and the USSR, which all have a special role to play, to take a bold approach in order to achieve a "balanced political solution." "Saddam must be given no alternative," he said. "If he wants comprehensive negotiations, why not follow the model of the Paris conference on Cambodia? As in the Cambodian case, such a conference would bring together the states directly concerned, those who have interests in the region and, finally, some big powers."

The DFLP leader, who apparently thinks that this would lead to a profound upheaval in the Iraqi regime, took care not to mention a conference with the task of settling the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, but spoke of a conference for peace and security in the Middle East—a skilful diplomatic approach which could make it possible to overcome the official obstacles to a meeting put forward by some of those involved.

In such conditions, Mr. Hawatimah said, President Saddam Husayn would be prepared to make major concessions. "He was prepared to do so before the war started, which he thought would not happen," the Palestinian leader said. "He even told us that he was prepared to withdraw from Kuwait. But he did not want to do so before real negotiations started. He did not want any preconditions. In a way, he learned from the failure of the American-Palestinian dialogue. The Americans put forward preconditions for starting dialogue with the PLO. With 'Arafat accepting one precondition after another, the Palestinians were left empty-handed when the Americans seized the first pretext to break off discussions. That is something which Saddam has not forgotten."

However, is it not too late to negotiate with Saddam Husayn who is the focus of so much hatred in the Western world? Would Israel or the United States even agree to contemplate it? "Unless they destroy him and, above all, control the consequences of doing so, they have no choice. There will be no negotiations without Saddam Husayn and it is pointless to speculate on an alternative in his entourage, to hope to play off one

faction against another. The Iraqi leadership is homogeneous and any decision now depends on Saddam. As for Iraq, it has been part of the Israeli-Arab conflict since 1948.

"Even if the West has always ignored its possible contribution to a negotiated settlement, Iraq has taken part in all the Arab-Israeli wars. It is impossible to ignore that country, it has an important place in the region, it is a factor in its present and future stability. Moreover, the attack on the Osirak reactor shows that Israel is aware of that. Eight years later, Iraq in turn has made it known that it is a force to be reckoned with."

Habash To Target Western Military Facilities

NC0102073091 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] In Damascus, Palestinian official George Habash [secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—PFLP] has affirmed that the revolutionaries of his group may attack Western military targets in support of Iraq and that they may open a front against Israel from Lebanon. Habash declared that the Gulf war will continue for many months and that hundreds of thousands of Americans will be killed.

'Aziz Sends Message to 'Arafat on War Operations

LD3101182191 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] [Iraqi Foreign Minister] Tariq 'Aziz has asked the Palestinian ambassador to Baghdad to convey a message to the brother president and leader Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], concerning the latest political and military developments at the battlefront.

'Arafat Meets With Ben Ali, Ortega 30 Jan

LD3101185291 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Brother Abu-Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met yesterday with the Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and with Daniel Ortega, the former president of Nicaragua, within the context of the efforts to stop the aggression against Iraq.

Communique Urges Palestinians To Support Iraq

LD3101123291 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Brothers, the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising has issued a communique calling upon the masses of our Arab homeland to support steadfast Iraq facing the U.S.-Zionist-Atlantic invasion. Following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To the civil defense committees in the state of Palestine! Youth, men and women of the intifadah! The scope of the U.S.-Zionist-Atlantic conspiracy underlying this dirty war of aggression against Iraq is becoming clear. It is a conspiracy which not only aims at the destruction of fraternal Iraq, but also at changing the entire political map of our region, in harmony with, and in broadening of, the detested Camp David accords.

This conspiracy is against the cause of our people and aims to strike at the will of the Arab to liberate and advance himself and to confront the interests of imperialism. It seeks to control the wealth and destiny of our Arab homeland. These days Iraq, with every courage and in the most brilliant steadfastness, is standing fast to prove to the invading aggressors that it is not the easy prey they had imagined and to impose upon them its conditions of a long war, which will make the Arabian desert and the Gulf waters a new cemetery for them, as were the jungles and ponds of Vietnam.

It is the duty of every Arab to come to the support of Iraq and not to leave it alone in the battle of all the Arab and weak peoples: moral support and protests of various importance do not suffice. There is much that could be done to deter the aggressors, their partners and accomplices, and to press the rulers of the Arab states which are participating with their forces in this dirty war to withdraw these forces and put them in their proper place alongside Iraq.

As for the role of those of us here under occupation, it is to hold on to our territory, the territory of Palestine, now that the hope of getting rid of the nightmare of occupation has begun to appear. This grip strengthens with every effort we make to deepen our national unity on all spheres by all means of national and social cohesion and the displaying of the highest forms of awareness and sense of responsibility.

Masses and guardians of the intifadah. Our approach and means are for the accomplishments of all that lie in speeding up and completing the deployment of the civil defense committees in all quarters, camps, villages, and towns.

The experience of the past few days and since the beginning of the formation of these committees, before and after the war flared up, has shown the extent of the ingenuity possessed by the people of the glorious intifadah in terms of the deployment of the role and activities of the civil defense. Hence, let us have more such committees and let us have more ingenuity and giving, and let us have more participation and involvement in all the activities and functions of these committees. For they are a long instrument for closing our ranks and organizing the affairs of our life in war times. They are the embodiment of our national unity and social cohesion. They are our weapons in the face of all designs of the occupation forces and our shield in facing up to all forms of psychological warfare and war of rumors.

Thanks to the ingenuity of the numerous civil defense committees in the various quarters and areas, the activities and tasks of these committees have begun to take

the following forms, as manifested in the organized distribution of roles and the division of work and activities within the framework of every civil defense committee:
Guarding duties;
Collective storing of essential provisions and medical supplies, exploiting the periods of the lifting of curfew for the purpose;
Social survey duties to define social cases in need of help and to organize social help to them, and in particular to our workers who suffer heavy losses because of the curfew;
Medical and health services duties;
Consumer protection duties by controlling and deterring any manipulation of prices, quality or production of commodities and any signs of exploitation, though we are fully confident that the majority of traders shoulder their national responsibilities in these circumstances;
Popular education duties, this great ingenuity of our intifadah which the Israelies began to copy only a few days after the interruption and halting of studies in their schools;
Assistance duties in getting feed to the cattles and poultry of our farmers and in devising ways to help them in attending to their plants and crops.

The tasks of guidance and bringing about awareness in order to implement the operation of storing foodstuffs and to limit consumption under the circumstances of the war, which will not be the short war that the war criminal Bush wanted;

The tasks of national information to counter the psychological war and the war of rumors which is being waged by the enemy. These should be carried out through our mosques, churches and loudspeakers in order to deliver the information, communiques, and calls to our people.

Youth and men of the intifadah! We reaffirm our appreciation of the role being played by the international and foreign institutions, especially UN agencies such as UNRWA, the Red Cross, and the various nongovernmental relief, aid and human rights organizations. We also affirm the necessity of providing them with the required facilities and the need to be aware and vigilant for any suspect dealings undertaken by the occupation authorities and their agents in order to expel them the agencies and impel them to leave our country and thus deprive our people of their services and, more importantly, of the existence of any external monitoring or foreign witnesses of the practices or prospective practices of the occupation authorities.

Recall, that a basic requirement from the international community which our people's leadership has been insisting upon has been that of international protection. We take this opportunity to ask all the foreign nongovernmental organizations present in our country to intensify and broaden their efforts and activities, to press their mother organizations in their homelands and, in consequence, public opinion there, in order to work through all means to stop this aggressive war against fraternal Iraq.
Long live the courageous intifadah.
Long live the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole and legitimate representative of our people.
Glory and victory to the masses of our people.
Glory and eternity to our valiant martyrs.
Shame and death to the invading occupiers, the Atlanticists, and Zionists.

Algeria

Democratic Movement Head Urges Help for Iraq

LD3101221691 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Another event in our capital today: As a witness of the first days of the war in Iraq, Ahmed Ben Bella, leader of the Movement for Democracy in Algeria [MDA], returned to Algiers last night. He gave an account during a news conference held today at the El Djazair Hotel.

For two hours he talked about all aspects of the tragedy, its consequences, the new world order imposed by Washington through the UN Security Council—which he described as a war council—and the organized genocide against the Iraqi people. The ways and the various forms of support to the wounded Iraqi people took up the majority of the news conference.

Concerning Algeria, Ben Bella said a consensus should be reached, a government of national unity should be formed, and diplomatic relations with the coalition member states should be frozen. Correspondent Rachida Touazi was present. She put some questions to the former president:

[Begin recording] [Touazi] How was Iraq when you left, and were the human and material losses great?

[Ben Bella] The human losses must have been great, that is certain. As for material losses, they should be less serious, because Iraq was expecting this crisis and made sure that its nervous system was protected from the blows that could hit it. It forsaw air raids and so forth, so there is the impossibility of facing up to such a big air force. [sentence as heard] Iraq is receiving blows, but its system is holding; 80 percent of its system is intact—I repeat, its nervous system.

[Touazi] Mr. Ben Bella, you have experienced the war there. What is Iraq ask'ng for now as support?

[Ben Bella] Iraq has already said. The Iraqi Assembly is asking the Arab and Muslim countries to express solidarity and take effective measures. They have asked for U.S. interests and those of the pseudo-alliance member states to be hit wherever they are. It is a statement [words indistinct]. They hope for a stronger solidarity.

[Touazi] That is?

[Ben Bella] That is, one should examine with them what their needs are. They certainly need cadres, soldiers, doctors, engineers, (?troops as well), military cadres, and experts [words indistinct]. I noticed this during our discussions.

[Touazi] One last question on [word indistinct]. What do you think about the call for jihad made by the Islamic Salvation Front and its request that physical and military training be given to young Algerians?

[Ben Bella] I have asked for a national unity government to be formed. In a difficult situation of crisis and war in Iraq or elsewhere, we could be dragged along; so this is a serious situation that one should handle well. I think the government as it stands is incapable of handling the situation. This government should be extended and a government of national unity formed, and measures should be taken collectively in agreement with our Iraqi brothers. This should be done without politicking. One should forget domestic politics and establish a political truce in a very sincere way. One should find out that (?the Iraqi brothers need) and provide it, whatever the price. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Islamic Front Organizes Pro-Iraqi March

LD3101134591 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The national march of the Islamic Front for Salvation [FIS] began at 1000 in the morning in a rainstorm. The group left from Martyrs' Square and proceeded via Zirout Youcef, Colonel Amirouche, and Hassiba Ben Bouali Boulevards to May 1 Square. The large gathering of marchers carried banners reading: The Destiny of the Islamic Nation Depends on Its Unity; The Islamic Nation Is a Legitimate Duty and a Human Necessity; I am at Your Service, O Iraq; and Muslims of the World Unite! They also carried wooden models of the al-'Abbas and al-Husayn missiles as well as the flag of Iraq.

After they arrived at May 1 Square, the flags of the Western coalition and those of the Arab states participating in the war were burned. Speeches were made, the first one by Cheikh Zebda, who said: We are meeting here not only to meet but to stand as one nation, and when we stand again it will be to build an Islamic state.

After that, the FIS official spokesman made a speech. He said: We are in danger as a result of the military blockade imposed on Iraq and we are also in danger from the economic blockade. Abassi Madani addressed the Algerian people, saying: You are standing in order to tell the world that you are a great and strong people and fully ready to challenge. The FIS official spokesman gave the authorities a deadline to examine their stand on the Middle East war:

[Begin Madani recording] This stand today in Algeria's history is in order to make the rulers aware of the fact that the times of individual rule are over, [croud chants God is Great] and they have to speed up the comprehensive change or the people will, God willing, change them. [croud chants God is Great]

So we tell them that we have not come today to occupy the presidency. When we decide to occupy the presidency we will go there. [crowd chants God is Great] If we do not go, the people are, God willing, ready. [sentence as heard] There is a deadline between you and us. You

must be aware of it and speed up the pending issues or the people will, God willing, move. [chanting of God is Great] [end recording]

Yemeni Delegation Discusses Gulf War, Relations

EA3101184791 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Brother Abdelaziz Belkhadem, chairman of the Algerian People's National Assembly, today met the delegation of the Yemeni Council of Representatives, headed by brother Yusuf al-Shahai, deputy chairman of the Council of Representatives, who is currently visiting Algeria. At the meeting, the latest developments in the Gulf region were discussed as well as the need for joint efforts to halt the destructive war aimed at destroying the brotherly Iraqi people and its economic and military potential. Both sides stressed that the allied forces, led by the United States, had overstepped the UN resolutions, and both sides expressed their full solidarity with the Iraqi people and their support in facing the dangers looming against our Arab people.

During the meeting, mutual relations between the councils were reviewed as were ways of consolidating them. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Meets With Iranian Ambassador

LD2901230591 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Major General Khaled Nezzar, national defense minister, this afternoon at his request received the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Algiers at the Defense Ministry. The ambassador was accompanied by the defense attache.

According to a Defense Ministry communique, the meeting—which was held in the presence of Maj. Gen. Abdelmalek Guenaizia, chief of staff of the National People's Armed Forces, and other high-ranking officers—allowed the two sides to review matters of common interest.

'Tendentious' Saudi Communique Criticized

LD2901111291 Algiers APS in English 1023 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Algiers, 29 Jan (APS)—Asked for the Algerian reaction concerning an official communique from Saudi Arabia criticizing the Algerian position in the national press on the Gulf war, the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry declared that this communique is a tendentious mixture among the positions expressed in the press and the official position of the Algerian state, such an amalgam aims at confusing the real data of the Gulf crisis and the war.

The spokesman added that even if in a certain context this would mean something for the one who drafted the communique, the Algerian people and press have a total freedom of speech according the laws and the Constitution.

Dealing with the clarifications of the official position of Algeria, the latter will communicate it [to] the Saudi Government through diplomatic means.

Egypt

'Abd-al-Majid, Perez de Cuellar Meet in New York

Discuss UN Post-Crisis Role

NC3101202491 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1853 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpts] New York, 31 Jan (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar met in New York today to discuss recent developments in the Gulf crisis and the Middle East issue, against the backdrop of the Gulf war and its repercussions on the occupied Arab territory.

'Abd-al-Majid described the hour-long meeting at the UN chief's office in New York as useful.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said he underlined to Mr. Perez de Cuellar Egypt's continued support for all his diplomatic efforts, proposals, and especially his appeals to Iraq before the expiration of the deadline set by UN Security Council Resolution 667. The deputy prime minister also said he hoped the Iraqi leadership would prove receptive to these efforts and rethink its position and comply with the UN Security Council resolutions.

The foreign minister said he and the UN chief had also examined the world organization's role in a post-crisis context. He stressed that Egypt will cooperate with the United Nations to promote the future security, stability, and development of the region. [passage omitted]

'Abd-al-Majid hoped brotherly Iraq would accommodate the recent Soviet-American initiative which was announced in Washington last night. [passage omitted]

Ghali Departs for Socialist International Meeting

NC3101153491 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo this afternoon for Austria to attend a two-day emergency meeting of the Socialist International. The meeting is scheduled to begin tomorrow, Friday, in the Austrian capital, Vienna.

In a predeparture statement, Dr. Ghali said that the meeting will discuss the Gulf crisis and its effects on the region. In his capacity as deputy to the Socialist International chairman and representative of the National Democratic Party, Dr. Ghali will also explain Egypt's views on the crisis and on the arrangements that should

prevail in the region after a settlement is achieved. He will also learn the views of the other participants in this international gathering.

Ghali Discusses Palestine Issue With Israeli Envoy

NC3001141791 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today met with the Israeli ambassador in Cairo. They discussed developments in the Middle East.

Dr. Ghali stressed the need to start preparing the climate for a settlement of the Palestine question that can be achieved through Israel's recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, so that a comprehensive and just peace in the region may be attained. His excellency asserted that Egypt's interest in the developments in the Gulf would not be at the expense of its interest in finding a solution to the Palestine question.

Consultative Council Appeals to Iraqi Leadership

NC3101191891 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1620 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA)—The Consultative Council has appealed to the Iraqi leadership and the Iraqi National Assembly to heed the voice of reason and wisdom and respond to the Security Council resolutions and the will of the international community to save the Iraqi people, their Army, their land, and the entire Arab land from further destruction in the ongoing war.

In a report prepared by the Arab, Foreign, and National Security Committee, which will be taken up by the council at its next session which opens next Saturday under speaker Dr. Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, the council asserted that since the Gulf crisis erupted, Egypt's position has been and remains a principled and constant position on the side of justice and right and against injustice and aggression.

The council also reasserted its full support for President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and all the measures he has taken and the efforts he has made throughout the various stages of the crisis.

The report also hailed the Egyptian Armed Forces stationed in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. The council pointed out that Egypt's dispatch of its forces was the result of the fact that one Arab country, Iraq, had committed aggression against another Arab country, Kuwait, and was in accordance with the request of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as Egypt's contribution to their legitimate self-defense against this threat and a concrete application of the collective Arab defense pact.

The report also asserted that Egypt's positions are in line with the principles of Arab and international legitimacy, and that the unambiguous objective which Egypt has pursued throughout the crisis has been to keep Iraq and Kuwait whole and to spare the Arab nation the dangers of partition and fragmentation and the tribulations and destruction of war. [passage omitted]

Keeping Israel Out of Conflict 'Most Essential'

PM3001115291 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI in Arabic 29 Jan 91 p 7

[Editorial: "Israel and the Gulf Crisis"]

[Text] U.S. presidential envoy Lawrence Eagleburger has failed to obtain a pledge from Israel that it will not intervene in the Gulf crisis even if it is exposed to an Iraqi attack. Shamir made it clear after his talks with Eagleburger that Israel reserves the right of self-defense.

We believe that Israel can stay out of the Gulf crisis so long as the coalition forces facing Iraq are in a position to prevent or repulse any Iraqi attack on any party in the region, including Israel. Israel has also obtained during this crisis several Patriot antimissile missiles from the United States which should ensure at least partial protection. Furthermore, the Israeli Air Force can prevent any Iraqi air attack. And since Iraq does not have the capability to attack Israel using any of its missiles or aircraft [as published], Israel is on the whole secure and also capable of deterring any attack. For all these reasons we want to emphasize that Israel must keep out of the Gulf crisis.

Israel may claim that it has been attacked by Iraq and that it must retaliate—and we have already witnessed several Israeli precedents. However, we must warn everyone, both in Iraq and Israel, against playing with fire in a region which is already simmering. The problems which have been created by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the dangers threatening the region are more than enough. Therefore, keeping Israel out of the military conflict is most essential so as not to create any further problems or embarrassments to the Americans and the Arabs.

Editorial Urges Ousting 'Murderer of Baghdad'

PM3001114791 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 28 Jan 91 p 5

[Editorial: "Rooting Out the Disease Has Become an Urgent Necessity"]

[Text] Every day, the murderer of Baghdad presents the world community with a new reason to believe that it simply must get rid of this anomaly whose mere existence constitutes a serious threat to all of mankind, especially since it has turned into an odious nightmare oppressing everyone; nay, an ugly disease which must be contained and uprooted before its spreads and contaminates our human values and principles!

What other crimes have not been committed against our civilized world by this creature who has lost his mind and turned, as the saying goes, into a bull in a china shop.

smashing everything in front of him simply to satisfy his hatred against anyone who tries to stop his stupidities and protect the people from the consequences of his reckless behavior!

The madman of Iraq has proved to the world beyond a shadow of doubt that his behavior is alien to mankind. He has gone berserk, and he has shown that he has no scruples about committing the ugliest crimes, not only against his own miserable people, but also against all of mankind. Therefore, it behooves the world community to unify its efforts in order to eliminate this man, who is trying to destroy everything in an effort to avoid his inevitable fate. This mad leader has gone all the way to the extent of polluting the environment. He was not satisfied with killing human beings, but went beyond that by killing birds, fish, and all God's creatures.

Every day, and in fact every hour, that passes with this criminal scot free increases the pain and suffering of his victims in Kuwait and Iraq, and in fact all over this planet. No doubt the coalition leaders are now aware of this reality. The whole world looks to them to eliminate this disease which threatens everyone.

Paper Argues Against Use of Mass Destruction Arms

PM2901121591 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI in Arabic 28 Jan 91 p 7

[Editorial: "No to the Annihilation of Human Beings"]

[Text] There have been increasing statements recently by certain members of the international coalition about the need to completely destroy Iraq's military machine—a development which could, in the end, undermine the means to protect Arab national security. The war now raging in the Gulf has definitely taken a serious turn with the emergence of such statements and innuendos about the possibility of resorting to nonconventional arms in order to decide the war if Iraq uses chemical weapons. What we need to emphasize here is that we are opposed to the use of such weapons by the warring sides: whether by Iraq against Israel, or by the members of the international coalition against the Iraqi people. This is because recourse to such weapons means the annihiliation of tens if not hundreds of thousands of human beings, with all the consequent environmental disasters whose effects will not go away with the end of the war. On the contrary, these effects will remain for a long time. You only have to look at the effects of the atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of World War II, effects which are still with us today.

Therefore, the responsibility falls on the shoulders of both sides of the Gulf war. We hope that Iraq will not resort to using weapons of mass destruction, if they are in its possession, in order not to give members of the international coalition the excuse to use their nonconventional weapons. The first victims will be the Iraqi people and perhaps other peoples of our Arab world.

Wafd Party Stance on Gulf War Involvement Explained

PM3001164991 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 27 Jan 91 p 1

[Chief Editor Jamal Badawi article: "The Wafd and the Right of Self-Defense"]

[Text] Contingents of the Egyptian Armed Forces have gone to defend the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates against the Iraqi dictator's threats which were made during the first days of the occupation of Kuwait. The Egyptian forces' performance of their defensive task is in implmentation of the Collective Arab Defense Pact which was concluded by the Wafdist government in 1950, approved by the House of Representatives the same year, and endorsed the following year by the Senate to become a legitimate framework for the defense of any Arab that is exposed to aggression.

The Wafd Party has approved this pan-Arab step out of its belief in the unity of Arab national security. In a statement following the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, Wafd leader Fua'd Siraj-al-Din announced that the party's support is based on the following principles:

1. What took place was an aggression by Saddam Husayn against a fraternal Arab state, whose territory was occupied by force and then annexed to Iraq against the will of its people.

2. The dispatch of the Egyptian forces to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates took place at the request of the two governments when they sensed the Iraqi danger. The Egyptian forces did not go as aggressive or invading forces. They went in order to participate in the defense of two fraternal states.

3. The participation in the defense of these two Arab countries is Egypt's duty under the Collective Defense Pact which was signed by all the member states of the Arab League headed by Egypt.

This Arab national stand by the Wafd Party is not something new. This party, which drafted the Collective Arab Defense Pact in 1950, adopted a similar stand when it was in the opposition on the subject of the Zionist gangs' danger in Palestine. And when the then al-Nuqrashi Pasha government decided to intervene militarily in defense of the Palestinian people, Fu'ad Siraj-al-Din, the leader of the opposition, announced during a closed session of the Senate on 12 May 1948 that Wafd supported this step because Palestine was Egypt's first line of defense and Egypt could not adopt a negative stand toward this impending danger.

The Wafd Party's position on the Gulf events does not stem from temporary emotions, but is based on an assessment of a threat to the Gulf region posed by the Iraqi dictator, who occupied an Arab country and wiped it out of existence and then went about threatening other neighboring states and pouring his missile fire on the peaceful residents of Riyadh, Dhahran, and Bahrain. He

also brought about the ruination of Iraq, whose safety, security, and stability concerns us more than it does this subsversive dictator.

Journalists Stage Sit-In To Protest Gulf War

NC2901182791 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1725 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Dispatch by Mustafa Bakri from Cairo]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Egyptian journalists today organized a sit-in at their association offices in Cairo. The sit-in, which lasted for several hours, was called to protest the continuation of war in the Gulf and the U.S. and multinational attacks against Iraq. The journalists chanted slogans denouncing U.S. aggression against Iraq and calling for an immediate cease-fire in the Gulf, a simultaneous withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and foreign forces from the Gulf, and a comprehensive solution of all regional issues, particularly the Palestinian issue.

Approximately 150 journalists participated in the event. They shouted slogans hostile to the U.S. and allied forces for their brutal aggression against the Iraqi people.

Meanwhile, the secretary of the Journalists Association Freedoms Committee announced that the association will organize a rally on Saturday to call for the release of detained journalist Majdi Ahmad Husayn, deputy chief editor of the opposition newspaper AL-SHA'B and assistant secretary general of the Labor Party. Husayn was arrested last Friday on charges of instigating the congregation attending prayers in a Cairo mosque against the government's position on the Gulf crisis.

Today's issue of AL-SHA'B reports that the State Security Prosecution Office yesterday began interrogating Naji al-Shiyahbi, member of the Labor Party's Executive Committee, on charges of printing leaflets entitled: "No to the Gulf War."

Second Group of Gulf Refugees Leaves Cairo

OW3101081391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0200 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, Jan. 31 KYODO—A second group of Asian evacuees from the Persian Gulf war left for home late Wednesday under a rescue program financed by the Japanese Government.

The 464 refugees, 383 Vietnamese and 81 Thais, arrived in Cairo on 15 buses Wednesday evening.

Their arrival was delayed because one bus broke down on the way from Nuweiba on Egypt's Sinai Peninsula after an overnight trip by land and ferry from a camp in Jordan, a Japanese Embassy official said.

Two Japanese commercial aircraft chartered by the Tokyo Government is ferrying them home on flight via Tokyo.

The first group, some 580 Vietnamese, flew to Ho Chi Minh City earlier in the day from Tokyo after leaving Cairo on Monday.

The evacuation program is part of Japan's 9 billion dollar package aimed at helping multinational efforts to free Kuwait from Iraqi occupation.

A delegation of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) is staying in Cairo to prepare for the planned use of Japanese military aircraft in shuttling refugees from Jordan and Syria to the Egyptian capital.

Public and Private Schools To Reopen 2 Feb

NC3101151391 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA)—Dr. 'Adil 'Izz-al-Din, minister of education and scientific research, has stated that studies in all public and private schools throughout the republic will begin the day after tomorrow, Saturday, 2 February.

Dr. 'Izz-al-Din said today that Egypt enjoys a high degree of security and stability despite the circumstances the region is experiencing.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Foreign Guests

Chadian Official

LD0102210191 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0910 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Jan (JANA)—The leader of the Great al-Fatih Revolution Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has received the commissioner of planning and cooperation in Chad, Brother Hassan Fadoul Kittir, and the delegation accompanying him.

It is worth noting that the Chadian official is visiting the Great Jamahiriyah these days. He has had talks with the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation on relations between the two countries and ways of consolidating them in all fields.

Turkish Opposition Leader

LD3101135391 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received Professor Necemettin Erbakan, leader of the Turkish Prosperity Party [refah partisi] and assistant secretary-general of the International Islamic People's Leadership.

During the meeting, the brother leader urged Professor Erbakan to incite the Turkish people to shut down the Atlantic bases in Turkish territories, to shut down the

Turkish front to prevent the sphere of the Gulf being extended, and to work toward getting Turkey out of the Atlantic alliance.

Saudi Envoy

LD2901175591 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1740 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Jan (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution has received Shaykh 'Ali Musallam, the personal envoy of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Malian Ambassador

LD2701232391 Tripoli JANA in English 1639 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Jan (JANA)—The leader of the revolution received the ambassador of Mali in Great al-Jamahiriyah.

The ambassador relayed to the leader a letter from the president of Mali, Mr. Troare.

Mr. Traore, in this letter, expressed his appreciation for the efforts made by the leader of the revolution for supporting Muslims and Islamics worldwide and for achieving world peace and security.

The letter lauds the leading role assumed by the leader for achieving peace in northern Mali hailing the initiatives announced by the guardian of Arab nationalism to peacefully solve the crisis of Kuwait and stop the Gulf war.

Mr. Traore has stressed that these efforts made by the leader expressed the steadfastness and strength of the Islamic world aiming at safeguarding the world against the consequences of war and destruction.

Al-Qadhdhafi Calls For Inter-Arab Discussion

LD2901191891 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Jan (JANA)—JANA had learned that in view of the danger threatening the Arab nation as a result of the Gulf war—a war that is rooted in intentional rancor against the Arab nation and aimed at destroying both Iraq and Kuwait, as well as seeking the destruction of the military, economic, and technical potential of the Arab nation—the brother leader of the great al-Fatih revolution has extended an invitation to the Arab ruling and opposition parties, as well as to the Arab parliaments, and to popular and vocational organizations to hold a meeting in the Great Jamahiriyah as soon as possible, in order to examine this serious situation.

Cooperation Discussions With Malta Held in Tripoli

LD3001095291 Tripoli JANA in English 0811 GMT 30 Jan 91

["Arab Maghreb Union's Pool" item]

[Text] Tripoli, 30 Jan (JANA)—The Libyan-Maltese discussions were held yesterday afternoon in Tripoli within the framework of promoting the bilateral relations between Great Jamahiriya and Malta.

The session was attended by the secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau and from the Maltese side by Guido di Marco the deputy prime minister and the minister of foreign affairs and justice and the president of the 45th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The session was also attended by a number of specialists and experts and the delegation accompanying the Maltese deputy prime minister.

The secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau delivered a speech asserting the importance of the joint bilateral work to consolidate relations between Great Jamahiriya and Malta and giving it a new boost to open before it new horizons for the mutual interest and create a network of interests for the benifit of both peoples.

He explained that great Jamahiriya was encouraging Libyan investments in Malta and encouraging its citizens to enhance this cooperation [word indistinct] the residence of Maltese citizens opening for them the opportunities of work, residence and movement and provide them with all the necessary facilities to implement all the existing agreements reached in the past period.

The Maltese deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs [words indistinct] replied with a speech asserting the truthful wish of his country to boost those relations steps forward to achieve the mutual interest.

He explained that the relations between Great Jamahiriya and Malta not only political but also relations of good neighbourly and mutual interest and it is desiring to deepen them and take them steps forward. [sentence as received] He pointed out that work comes to carry out the truthful desire to create ideal relations and develop them not for the benifit of the Maltese and the Libyan Arab peoples but for the benifit of the nations of the Mediterranean region and the security and peace of this region to promote international peace.

During this session emphasis was placed on implementing all the signed agreements between the two countries and promote cooperation [words indistinct].

Sudan

Al-Bashir Says Army in 'Full Control' in South

EA3101112491 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1418 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jan (SUNA)—Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, the Revolution Command Council chairman, has stressed that the Armed

Forces are in full control of the situation in the south of the country and that their valiant soldiers are inflicting heavy losses on the outlaws, scoring victories over them every day. Lt.Gen. 'Umar said that this year would witness a decisive victory over the rebellion. His excellency refuted the rumors disseminated by hostile quarters about imaginary victories scored by the outlaws. This emerged when his excellency addressed officers, NCO's, and men of the Second Infantry Division at al-Law town yesterday evening.

Armed Forces Control Equatoria Region

EA3101185991 Khartoum SUNA in English 0942 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Jan (SUNA)—Major General Allison Magaya, governor of the Equatoria Region, said that the security situation in Equatoria is calm and is under full control of the Armed Forces. The governor, who was speaking at a briefing in Juba yesterday, said the revolution, ever since its inception, has concentrated on peace, development and reconstruction of the Sudan.

He affirmed the steady and regular delivery of food supplies, along with the secured education and health services, and the political stability were factors that encouraged the displaced to return to the region. Maj. Gen. Magaya has noted that relief operations are progressing satisfactorily, although, he added, the region does not entirely depend on those operations.

Al-Bashir on Islamic Law, Gulf War

EA3101110891 Khartoum SUNA in English 0931 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jan (SUNA)— The chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council] Gen 'Umar al-Bashir has affirmed that the application of Islam shari'a laws has liberated Sudan from all laws of the colonialists and their culture. Addressing a mass rally [at] Khashm al-Qirbah town, Eastern Region, yesterday the RCC chairman pointed out that the issuance of the Islamic laws will be completed following the convocation of the legal reform conference early next month.

He described the current war in the Gulf as a war of destruction waged by the imperialist forces for the destruction of Arab economic and military might. Gen al-Bashir renewed his call on all Arab leaders of goodwill to exert serious efforts to stop the war which benefits Israel only.

The revolution leader hailed the citizens of the eastern region for their strong support to the revolution programmes.

Gen al-Bashir received [word indistinct] oath of allegiance from the citizens of the area which was administered by the governor of the eastern region Col Awad al-Hasan.

Gen al-Bashir on the same day addressed the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of 2nd Division stationed in al-Faw. In his address the RCC chairman reviewed the revolution's efforts to make the past agricultural season a success. He affirmed that the agricultural season is considered as successful despite poor rainfall. Gen al-Bashir described the formation of the People's Defence Force as one of the achievements of the revolution to link the people with their Armed Forces.

The RCC chairman returned here later in the day.

Government Spokesman Welcomes Change in Somalia

EA3101173191 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1409 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Jan (SUNA)—Sudan has welcomed the ruling regime [al-nidam] in Somalia and expressed the hope that Somalia witnesses stability under a just government that will implement reforms to its political and economic systems and tackle the [word indistinct] of the Somali nation in a spirit of comprehensive national unity, according to Professor 'Abdallah Muhammad Ahmad, culture and information minister and official government spokesman. He stressed that what has been accomplished in Somalia expressed the Somali people's wish. We can only welcome this wish, he added. [words indistinct] confirmation of the close brotherly and cultural ties between the countries.

Democratic Alliance Assails Anti-Egypt Protests

PM3001145391 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 27 Jan 91 p 7

[Unattributed report: "National Alliance in Western Europe Regrets Islamic Front Demonstrations]

[Text] The Sudanese Democratic National Alliance branch in Western Europe has issued a statement in which it extremely regretted the hostile demonstrations which were organized by the Islamic Front under the protection of the military regime in Khartoum. The statement says that these demonstrations did not reflect the eternal and historical relations which bind the two peoples of the Nile Valley—relations which cannot be undermined in any way—but the stand of the front's government which has removed its false mask and revealed its hatred against Egypt. This attitude, the statement adds, conflicts with the position which has been taken by the Sudanese people with all their parties, unions, and political forces.

Official Reports on RCC Team's Libya Visit

EA3001112191 Khartoum SUNA in English 1005 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Jan (SUNA)—Minister of information and member of the Sudan delegation which visited Libya recently under the chairmanship of member of the RCC [Revolution Command Council] Col Bakri Hasan Salih has announced that the delegation held meetings with the Libyan side on promoting relations in light of the Gulf war and that the two sides agreed to exchange information to activate the implementation of integration between the two countries. He added that the two sides also agreed to coordinate their positions in the international organisations in light of the current aggression of the U.S.-led alliance against the Iraqi people, which aims at destroying the Iraqi economic and military infrastructure.

The meetings also discussed the general regional position and the national Arab position in order to review the alternatives which could take place in light of what [is] going on in the Gulf, the minister said.

The visit had lasted for two days.

Oman

Gulf Air To Operate Muscat-Manila Flights

NC3101153291 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1150 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Manama, 31 Jan (Wakh)—An official Gulf Air source has stated that the airline will begin operating three direct flights a week between Muscat and Manila—Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays—as of 5 February 1991. [passage omitted]

The source said that these flights were added to respond to passengers' needs.

Tamrit Air Base Commander Dies 'On Duty'

NC0102132891 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1135 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Muscat, 1 Feb (WAKH)—Muscat Radio has announced that Brigadier General Ahmad Bin-Muhammad al-Rawwas, commander of the Tamrit Air Base of the Omani Sultan's Air Force, has died. The radio said that Brig. Gen. al-Rawwas died while on duty.

Ivory Coast Establishes Diplomatic Relations

NC2801135891 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1305 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Muscat, 28 Jan (WAKH)—The Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Ivory Coast have decided to establish diplomatic relations on ambassadorial level as of today. A joint statement issued in the two capitals says that the Governments of Oman and the Ivory Coast have decided to establish diplomatic relations out of their sincere desire to expand ties of friendship and cooperation on the basis of the principles of respect to national sovereignty, noninterference in the other country's internal affairs, and peaceful solution to differences among countries.

Saudi Arabia

Further Reportage Evaluates Al-Khafji Operation

Joint Forces Issue Communique

LD3101181891 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1741 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Military Communique No. 14 issued by the command of the Joint Forces and Theater of Operations in Riyadh on 31 January]

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 31 Jan (SPA)—In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:
God's victory is near.

Military Communique No. 14 issued on 31 January 1991 by the Joint Forces Command and the Theater of Operations for day 15 of Desert Storm.

Today, our Armed Forces completely cleansed the town of al-Khafji from the aggressive forces, took a large number of aggressor soldiers, and seized many military vehicles. Details of this operation will be issued in the next few hours. His royal highness the deputy prime minister and minister of defense, aviation, and inspector general has ordered that a number of members of the Saudi Armed Forces be awarded medals of honor and marksmanship in appreciation for their heroic actions. These awards come at the recommendation of His Royal Highness Lieutenant General Khalid Bin-Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, commander of the joint forces and the theater of operations, who handed out the awards yesterday evening. [passage omitted]

The total number of sorties carried out by the joint forces since the start of the Desert Storm operation is well over 32,000, of which our air force has carried out more than 2,000.

During the last 24 hours, two marine mines were discovered by our naval forces, one of which was destroyed. The other mine is still being dealt with.

The American naval forces also monitored two more mines, one of which was destroyed. The other is still being dealt with.

A group of joint forces supported by A-6 planes of the U.S. Navy destroyed 14 pieces of enemy naval equipment in the northern Arabian Gulf, consisting of landing craft, missile launches, and patrol boats.

As a result of this, 20 of the enemy forces were captured.

'Over 400' Iraqi Prisoners

LD0102011891 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 0046 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Concerning the results of the operation to liberate the town of al-Khafji, we have just learned from an official at the Joint Command and Theater of Operations that the Saudi forces managed, with God's help, to take over 400 elements of the assailant Iraqi troops prisoner, and that they captured a group of armored vehicles and tanks. The Joint Command official added that a video showing the details of this operation would be shown later today, Friday, God willing.

'Massive' Allied Casualties Alleged

LD3101121291 Tehran IRNA in English 1119 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA—The U.S.-led multinational forces have yet to drive the Iraqi troops out of the northeastern Saudi city of al-Khafji despite their claimed military superiority over Iraq.

An informed source closely following the developments in the Persian Gulf war, told IRNA here Thursday that heavy clashes which broke out in al-Khafji Wednesday

night continued overnight and the multi-national forces unable to repel the Iraqi offensive had to rely extensively on their air forces.

Despite the intensified air raids especially after 21:30 hours local time (18:00 GMT) Wednesday, the multi-national troops have not yet managed to push back Iraqi forces from al-Khafji.

In light of the heavy fightings in al-Khafji both warring sides are likely to have sustained heavy casualties and damage.

The massive casualties inflicted on western forces has forced the American commanders to impose a strict censorship on war news and this is why the American casualty toll has remained unchanged since the al-Khafji offensive.

Mubarak Calls Fahd, Praises Al-Khafji Action

LD3101214591 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2030 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Riyadh, 31 Jan (SPA)—King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, today received a telephone call from his brother His Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

SPA has learnt that during this call President Mubarak expressed to the beloved king his profound satisfaction at the honorable results achieved by the Saudi forces in cleansing al-Khafji from the aggressive [Iraqi] elements that infiltrated into it and then surrendered to them [the Saudis].

For his part, the custodian of the two holy mosques expressed thanks and gratitude to His Excellency President Mubarak for the feelings of brotherhood, reassuring the latter that matters are taking their right course.

IRNA Assesses Allied Reporting on Al-Khafji

LD3101133691 Tehran IRNA in English 1252 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] New York, Jan. 31, IRNA—While U.S. military commanders are speaking of their supremacy over Iraqi forces in ground, sea and air, after over 30 hours since the fall of al-Khafji in northeastern Saudi Arabia, there has been no comment on operations of the allied forces to liberate the city.

American TV networks for the first time Thursday morning confessed that the allied forces have failed to retake the Saudi city.

'ABC" television network quoting its reporter in the region said that the allied forces in the third stage of their attack invaded the city Wednesday night but were repelled by the Iraqi forces.

However, ranking American commanders in interviews Wednesday claimed that Iraqi forces in the region have been totally smashed and the remaining Iraqis are waiting for a chance to surrender.

The number of invading Iraqi forces is another matter of discrepancy. Commander of the U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia General Norman Schwarzkopf said that an Iraqi armoured battalion including 40 tanks participated in the attack. He added that American helicopters and jet fighters knocked out all Iraqi tanks after the sunrise. Other American operational commanders said three battalion or two brigades launched the offensive.

According to American military experts, Iraqi forces advanced towards the town by passing borders through four axes on Tuesday night. The Saudi frontline forces included a unit of the Saudi border guards and possibly a unit of the 82nd airborne division, they said.

The Western forces tried to stop the advance of the invading forces by heavy artillery fire when they were informed of the attack and repelled Iraqi forces from three axes. In the fourth axis Iraqi forces entered the town at early hours on Wednesday.

Although American military commanders claim that the region including al-Khafji had been evacuated, several American reporters who had visited the town during the recent weeks said that two tactical headquarters of American-Arab forces were set up in al-Khafji.

According to neutral experts, contrary to the claim of American commanders, the Iraqi operations took the Western forces by surprise especially because they thought that Kuwait-stationed Iraqi forces had been crippled due to continuous bombardments by U.S.-led forces.

American commanders have so far kept silent on the extent of damages and number of possible captives beseiged inside al-Khafji by Iraqi forces and have announced only the death of 12 marines.

On Wednesday morning the U.S.-led forces attacked the occupied areas from air and land using helicopters and jet fighters which carried out tens of sorties. The American heavy artillery also barraged the Kuwait-Saudi border district continuously in order to cut the logistic connection of Iraqi forces.

In the next stage, several anti-armoured units of the Western forces started advancing towards al-Khafji to destroy Iraqi tanks that American commanders had claimed had been completely knocked out. An armoured unit carrying anti-tank TOW missiles lost its caravan and entered al-Khafji by mistake and as a result its two American crew were taken captive.

On Thursday morning, American television networks announced that the last stage of the operation by the U.S.-led forces to retake the town had failed.

An armoured unit of Saudi and Qatari forces moved toward al-Khafji on Thursday morning while receiving support from American jet fighters, helicopters and

artillery units. The Arab troops faced heavy resistance of Iraqi units after entering the city and were forced to retreat.

American television network are now reporting another attack being organised by American ground forces and Arab troops adding that Western air force and airborne troops have started heavy attacks on Iraqi positions and their logistic lines in Saudi Arabia since Thursday morning.

All these efforts to retake al-Khafji are being made while none of Western commanders accept responsibility for the operations. American commanders say the Saudi Army is responsible for retaking al-Khafji and introduce their forces as reinforcement, but Saudi military commanders have declined to attend any interviews or accept responsibility for the operations.

Minister Discounts Oil Slick Impact on Industry

LD3101191691 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Minister of Electricity and Industry 'Abd-al-Aziz- Bin-'Abdallah al-Zamil has stressed that SABIC [Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Commission] industrial complexes are working normally despite the current situation. [passage omitted]

In a statement to SPA, Zamil pointed out that this has been clearly noticed in the safety record issued by the complexes, as a result of their eagerness to use the most modern and accurate methods in the industrial security field with a view to providing maximum safety for people and installations. He said that all operational and production matters are progressing normally in the complexes, and that the oil slick which has leaked into the Arabian Gulf has had no harmful effect on the cooling channels which feed SABIC factories. [passage omitted]

Commentary Criticizes 'Tyrant of Baghdad'

LD3101145691 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Operation Desert Storm, which aims to liberate the fraternal State of Kuwait, has overshadowed all other events in the Arab and international arenas.

The desert operation has two aspects: military and political. The military aspect lies in the intensive air raids carried out by the coalition air forces on Iraqi military positions and installations in Iraq and occupied Kuwait. According to military statements, these military operations have accomplished their objectives well, despite the care taken to ensure that the intensive operations would avoid residential areas and historic sites and buildings. This care is taken despite the fact that the Iraqi aggressor uses these places for military ends in violation of all international laws and usages.

On the political aspect of Operation Desert Storm, there have been many political meetings at various levels, foremost of which was the meeting held yesterday [30 January] in Riyadh between King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, and his brother His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the fraternal Arab Republic of Egypt, as well as the meeting in Washington between U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh.

These meetings were unanimous in affirming that Operation Desert Storm will not stop until the Iraqi regime unambiguously declares the withdrawal of their forces from Kuwait and the return of legitimacy under the leadership of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, and his government.

Without such a clear declaration, the coalition forces, supported by the official and popular international will, will continue their operations without stopping or being stopped by anything, until they liberate all of Kuwaiti territory. [passage omitted]

Press sources have described the meeting between King Fahd and the Egyptian president as a rare opportunity for the Iraqi president to return to peace and reason, to save his Army and the people of Iraq from the catastrophes now looming over the horizon, particularly as the tyrant of Iraq, Saddam Husayn, and his soldiers have now seen the capabilities of the coalition forces. [passage omitted]

The sources pointed out that, ever since the overwhelming defeat he suffered during the first air offensives, the tyrant of Iraq has been trying to conceal his defeat, exploiting for this purpose hired mouthpieces to propagate his lies, although they know well that his allegations and claims are false and wrong.

He claimed that, as soon as the Kuwait liberation operation began, he would set half of Israel on fire with his weapons of mass destruction. But he could not do so. Yet, in order to show off in front of the propagators and lauders of his aggression, he launched a few Scud missiles against occupied Palestine, two of which fell on the occupied West Bank. These missiles have given the Israeli entity gains that its rulers could never have dreamed of.

Will those who ride on the bandwagon of the charlatan of Baghdad now realize his true intentions and the falsehood of his claims, so that they may strike at his hands and advise him to stop his practices and withdraw from Kuwait. For only in this manner will those who follow in the wake of the tyrant know whether they stand on their feet or on their heads. That will determine the picture of reality as it appears to them.

United Arab Emirates

Pakistan's Sharif Phones Zayid on Gulf Events

NC3001183791 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1735 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Jan (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, today received a telephone call from Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif during which they reviewed current developments related to the Gulf crisis.

The Pakistani prime minister also briefed His Highness Shaykh Zayid on the results of his tour of a number of Arab and Islamic states in connection with the Gulf crisis.

Yemen

Foreign Minister Views Nonaligned Consultations

EA3101130291 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Brother Dr. 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, the foreign minister, has stated that lately the war in the Gulf has taken a very dangerous turn and the alliance forces fighting against Iraq have not hesitated to strike at civilian installations, thus causing great damage to the economic installations of fraternal Iraq. The brother foreign minister said in an interview with Jordanian radio today that the hidden goal was more and [word indistinct] than the pronounced objectives, and that the Yemeni leadership has been extremely annoyed by this. Therefore, it is necessary to make a move to halt this war and to carry out serious and sincere negotiations to solve the Gulf crisis and all the problems that make our region a continuous site of international wrangling.

In response to a question regarding a new Yemeni initiative, Dr. al-Iryani said that there is none other than that which had previously been voiced by our country, to reach total solutions and to realize a comprehensive and immediate resolution in the area. Concerning the international areas in which our country will launch its efforts, Dr. al-Iryani pointed out that they are in contact with some Islamic countries and Yugoslavia, in its capacity as the chairman of the Nonaligned countries, India, in its capacity as a member of the Nonaligned countries, (?and the) Security Council [words indistinct] in the Nonaligned Movement, and China, in its capacity as a permanent member of the Security Council.

Replying to a question on the obstruction of the efforts made by a number of Arab countries, including our country, which aim at convening an official session of the UN Security Council, the brother foreign minister said that this was nothing other than a confirmation of the hidden objectives, which we say have now become clear and patent, because the goal is to destroy Iraq and its installations.

Turkish Envoy's Residence Bombed; One Injured

TA3101172791 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1650 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Ankara (ANATOLIA)—Unidentified assailants fired a bomb at the residence of the Turkish ambassador in Yemenite capital of Sanaa on Thursday. Ambassador Nazim Belger told ANATOLIA by phone that a Philippino servant at the residence was slightly injured and there was minor damage in the bombing.

Yemenite officials reported that unidentified attackers also fired three shots at the residence of the U.S. ambassador to Yemen and threw a bomb at the residence of the Japanese ambassador on Thursday.

Spokesman Reviews Attacks on Foreign Missions

NC3101202091 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1858 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Sanaa, 31 Jan (MENA)—Yemeni television this evening broadcast a statement by a spokesman for the Yemeni Interior Ministry in which he announced that an unknown person driving a car this morning hurled dynamite sticks at the residences of the Japanese and Turkish ambassadors in the Yemeni capital, Sanaa, which resulted in some windows being smashed. The spokesman added that three bullets were fired at the wall of the American Embassy in Sanaa.

The spokesman for the Yemeni Interior Ministry strongly condemned what he described as criminal actions which are aimed not only at creating tension in the strong relations that bind Yemen and other friendly and brotherly countries, but also at undermining the foundations of democracy, based on the Yemeni Constitution, which has allowed the Yemeni people to express their solidarity with the Iraqi people peacefully.

The spokesman asserted to all brothers and friends in Yemen his country's strong concern for their security. He also asserted that the authorities will pursue those responsible and bring them to account.

The spokesman urged citizens to report any information about those behind these irresponsible actions and asked them to remain vigilant and to warn against such subversive actions. [passage omitted]

Saddam Meets Defense Minister in Southern Sector

NC3101192391 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1905 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] During his visit to the southern front facing the forces of imperialist tyranny and its Atlantic and Zionist allies, Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces, met with Defense Minister General Sa'di Tu'mah 'Abbas and a number of members of the Armed Forces General Command.

His excellency stayed there all night and until the early hours of this morning. He assured himself on the soundness of the measures and arrangements and the growing morale of the soldiers of right, who defend the divine values, which will always constitute the main pillar for the holy struggle of the people of Mesopotamia, and who are determined to defeat the forces of polytheism and infidelity which are shadowed by the darkness of sin, degeneration, and moral degradation, together with those who allied themselves with them—the betrayers of the nation who speak Arabic, but who betray the nation's divine message, heritage, values, and sanctities.

Receives Cable From Saudi Group

NC3101210991 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn has received a cable from the leader of the National Front for the Unification of the Arabian Peninsula [al-jabhah al-wataniyah litawhid al-jazirah al-'arabiyah]:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Mr. Chairman of the Revolution Command Council, President of the Iraqi Republic, leader Saddam Husayn: We were united by genuine Arabism even before we became united in our anger against the hypocritical servants of the colonialists and against the greedy colonialist ambitions toward the Arab countries and their wealth. We support your honorable position at the head of the giant heroes of Iraq in defense of the Arab and Muslim sacred places in holy Mecca, Medina, and holy Jerusalem, a position that sets a revolutionary example for all honorable Arabs and the entire world. In the face of your determination and resolve, the forces of tyranny stand perplexed and defeated and all oppressed people of the world have found encouragement for taking their destiny into their own hands.

Our national front, which looks forward to the achievement of the objective of unifying the Arabian Peninsula, also looks forward to your clear and certain victory—whether through war or peace—and to the cleansing of the Arab lands from aggression and treachery, so as to pave the way for a single front that is capable of ousting the colonialist designs from our countries once and for all. We are in your trench—our one trench—until the clear victory. Peace be upon you.

[Signed] Sincerely, the leader of the National Front for the Unification of the Arabian Peninsula, (?Dar al-Arqam), holy Mecca

'Aziz Addresses Message to Third World Ministers

NC3101131091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Jan 91

["Text" of message sent by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to "foreign ministers of Third World countries" on 28 January]

[Text] Mr. Minister: The unfolding of the aggression which the allied forces of American-Atlantic-Zionist imperialism have been waging against Iraq since 17 January 1991 unequivocally reveals the aggressive imperialist goals of the governments involved in this evil alliance. The United States, Britain, France, and the other states involved in this aggressive alliance against Iraq are the same ones that formerly pursued a policy of colonization, enslavement of peoples, and looting of wealth.

After years of bitter struggle, particularly after World War II, the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America succeeded in uprooting colonialism and eliminating the effects of foreign occupation. Many peoples were able to gain freedom and independence. The international balance which developed after World War II with the emergence of the Soviet Union as a military and political power equal to America and its allied imperialist Western states contributed to the achievement of the positive results in the 1950's and 1960's in favor of national liberation movements by the peoples of the three continents. The Nonaligned Movement played an active role in preserving the independence of newly liberated states.

These imperialist states, which have ambitions of controlling the world's resources, particularly oil, and whose unjust self-centered policies entangled Third World countries in economic problems in past decades, imposed an unjust economic system which guarantees them hegemony over the world economy. The governments of these states quickly and in a misleading manner sought to use the disequilibrium in the international balance of power resulting from the deteriorating conditions in the Soviet Union, which has adopted a policy of subordination to America and the Western states. These states used recent events in East European countries to restore their previous imperilialist positions which control the people of the Third World politically and economically.

We warned from the outset that the events of 2 August 1991 and subsequent developments are not as the United States and its allies, in their obscurantist way, depict them, portraying the issue as one of international law and respect for the UN Charter. I would like to recall the facts I enumerated in my 4 September 1990 letter. These facts clearly explain the American-Zionist conspiracy against Iraq, a conspiracy in which the former

rulers of Kuwait participated, because of Iraq's independent policy and its opposition to the aims of the imperialist-Zionist alliance in the region.

It is regrettable that these imperialist states have extended their hegemony because of the absence of the abovementioned Soviet factor at the United Nations. These states have begun using this international body to justify their aims of hegemony and domination. Therefore, the current confrontation between Iraq and the imperialist colonialist states allied against it is a decisive one against the new Western-U.S. imperialist era, the era of hegemony, domination, and control over the world's economic resources, especially oil, as well as the world's political fate.

From the outset, the United States and its Western allies dealt with this crisis in a domineering, aggressive way, imposing resolutions on the UN Security Council that are unprecedented in this organization's history and thwarting all attempts at dialogue and endeavors to find an Arab solution to the crisis. They used sanctions, terrorism, and military force in an effort to compel Iraq to submit to their will. From the outset, Iraq warned of the dire consequences to Third World countries if they accepted the obscurantist Western-U.S. approach to the crisis, the exploitation of the UN apparatus, and the selective and prejudiced interpretation of international law to serve the aims of the United States and its Western imperialist allies.

Now, when the facts of the aggression are being revealed, free nations and countries which have struggled for the sake of liberty, independence, and equitable relations among countries and have called for a new and just international economic system in which the peoples of countries producing raw materials obtain their natural right to exploit their wealth in a way that ensures they receive the necessary revenues for life and development, must reconsider their analyses of the situation since its inception. They must draw the correct conclusions and support free and independent Iraq in the fight against the unjust imperialist campaign to which it has been subjected by colonialist countries.

The facts of the aggression, which are now several days old, provide concrete evidence that the aim of this evil alliance is not to implement international law and safeguard UN legitimacy but to destroy Iraq and its emerging strength, which is the pillar of its national independence and the balance of power in the region. Iraq's emerging strength provides the countries in this region with the ability to safeguard their independence now and in the future against imperialist hegemony in general and Israel's expansionist aggressiveness in particular.

The message I sent to the UN secretary general on 24 January emphasized the brutal means used by the forces of the alliance in harming the people of Iraq and punishing it for its free and independent policy. The vengeful operations directed against the people and their economic, cultural, health, scientific, religious, and other possessions are clear proof of the hostile colonialist aims of the alliance's governments.

We, the Third World's nations, must remember a major and very important fact in the existing situation; namely, the huge sum being spent on the aggressive military effort against Iraq. These governments which had stubbornly refused to deal with the Third World's economic problems and the heavy debt burden which shackles its countries on the pretext of the rich countries' economic crises and some of which, such as the United States, had refused to pay their financial contributions to the United Nations and its subsidiary organizations, are now spending tens of billions of dollars on their military campaign against Iraq.

Can we accept its claims that it does so to enhance the status of the United Nations and international law? This is a subterfuge which should not deceive the free and independent people of the Third World and all free and honest people in the world.

These countries, which have a black colonialist history and which have always pursued selfish policies, hold these huge sums of money as a form of investment and seek through their aggressive military campaign against Iraq and through their deceptive media campaign to control the huge resources of the Middle East region, particularly oil, and to impose imperialist economic hegemony over all the peoples of the world. In this way, they will also gain political and military hegemony over these people.

Mr. Minister, the battle Iraq is now waging against the forces of this colonialist alliance is not the battle of the so-called Gulf crisis. It is the battle for liberation and independence against the new colonialist policy of the U.S.-Atlantic-Zionist alliance. The Third World people should define their stand on this battle clearly, support free, independent, and courageous Iraq, and vehemently denounce this blatant aggression and expose the methods of deception and blackmail to which the United States and its allies have resorted in the past months to pave the way for this aggression. Some of these methods consist of the imposition of unjust resolutions in the name of the UN Security Council, not to mention the other means of blackmail, terrorism, and bribery.

Mr. Minister, we are facing a new stage in the struggle for freedom and independence. The militant Iraqi people are bearing the brunt of the sacrifices to build a truly new world order, a world order under the umbrella of which our people in the Third World will be capable of defending their independence and interests. The world order of which Bush, Major, and Mitterrand speak is in reality the reemergence of the U.S.-European colonialist era in new deceptive forms.

The confrontation of this imperialist aggression and the solidarity with Iraq is not only an Iraqi request we put to you from the premise of fraternal solidarity with the people of the Third World, but it is also a prerequisite for

the preservation of the independence of our people and countries throughout the Third World as well as the preservation of our resources and interests against the perils of this new colonialist era.

Mr. Minister, please accept our deepest respects.

[Signed] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq

[Dated] Baghdad, 28 January 1991

Further Reportage on Ground Assault at Al-Khafji

Communique Lauds Ground Forces

NC3001095891 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0907 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Communique No. 31 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Help from God and a speedy victory. [Koranic verse] O great Iraqi people; O Saudi people, the honorable people of Najd and Hejaz; O people wherever you are: We did not want it [the war], and God is our witness. But, traitor Fahd, the agent of the Americans, wants it. He turned the land of sanctities and revelation into an arena for the operations of the leaders of infidelity. Thus, he desecrated the sanctities, the land, and what is on it. He committed his treasonous crime together with Bush, the enemy of God. Every day, they commit aggression using their air force against the faithful, patient people of Iraq; they kill the children and women in addition to the lofty believers, the righteous sons.

They speak admiringly of the large number of their planes involved in the aggression. So they begin to imagine things and continue their depravity. The madness of their treason and crime guided their sick imagination. Their miserable dreams were on the level of the technological development of the air fleet.

Now that the aggression is clear and the crime is hideous before all the Muslims and the world, we face the advanced technology with faithful men.

O Iraqis, O Arabs, and O Muslims who believe in justice, your faithful and courageous ground forces have moved to teach the aggressors the lessons they deserve. They have launched their lightning land attack, bearing high the banner saying God is great, and have crushed the armies of atheism as they advance. They have routed those who could run away and have cursed the infidels and heathens. Our units advanced on the battlefront approximately 20 km into the battlefield where the enemy in the Saudi kingdom of evil is found. Our forces managed to enter the coastal town of al-Khafji at midnight tonight. Thus, God has given the faith a great victory with the collapse of the front of infidelity on the earth which God has blessed so it will continue to defend his banner and sing his praises.

O people in the kingdom of the Saudis, the people of Najd and Hejaz. We do not covet your land. We are your brothers, and you are our brothers. All of us are in one line against the line of atheism, crime, and corruption—the line of Fahd and Bush and their failing collaborators. Our entry into your land is not occupation but is made necessary by the circumstances of the fight against the armies of atheism and aggression that have turned your land into a base for aggression. The enemy and the aggression will not conceal from us the fact that we are your brothers and you are our brothers, and that this relationship, as it has always been, is above all ambition and gain. It will continue to be above any material gain in life and above any ambition imagined by any small-minded person. The main thing for us, as it is for you, is to satisfy God and to exercise our legitimate right to defend ourselves and the great principles, which are the principles of all the faithful Muslims and honorable Arabs of whom you constitute a part. God is great, God is great, God is great. May the lowly be accursed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command

[Dated] The night of 12/13 Rajab 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 29/30 January 1991

Forces Said To Take Female POW's

NC3101125491 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Citing an informed military source, INA has learned that our heroic forces, who entered the town of al-Khafji after defeating the forces of aggression there, are the heroic Muhammad al-Qasim forces and the forces affiliated with them under their commander Staff Brigadier General Yasin Fulayyih al-Ma'ini. INA has also learned that the U.S. and Saudi prisoners and the other prisoners of the allied forces of infidelism and treason who have been captured are still in al-Khafji town with our forces. They will remain there until further notice.

INA has also learned that among the prisoners who were captured by our mujahid forces, who occupied the Saudi town of al-Khafji on the night of 29 January, are female U.S. soldiers. These female soldiers are being treated well by the Iraqi fighters in accordance with the traditional treatment of prisoners. They will be given good treatment in accordance with the spirit of the lofty Islamic laws.

Communiques, Statements Detail Activities

Communique Issued 31 Jan

NC3101190391 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1752 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Military Communique No. 33 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 31 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

This just battle, which is being fought by the people of Iraq and its Armed Forces for the nation and with its support, is the battle of the true faith in God, the divine messages, and the values, ideas, and moral traits set forth by these messages against infidelity in all its manifestations and the malice it has generated toward mankind and its sanctities and honorable aspirations. Moreover, because the Arab nation is the one carrying the torch of this message on the blades of its sons' swords, and because this nation has struggled and exerted immense efforts and continues to do so to establish the higher ideals and entrench the pillars of its civilized progress for itself and for others, the enemies of religion and humanity have targeted this nation and are trying to cause a gaping wound to afflict its sanctities. That is why they imposed their hegemony on beloved Palestine and the (?second) most honorable and third holiest place [Jerusalem] through their racist entity and their ample moral and material support for this entity. This did not satisfy them, however, and today they are desecrating the most sacred spot which God has singled out to be the most virtuous on this planet. That spot is the land of the [Arabian] Peninsula and Hejaz, the place of the God's blessed Ka'bah and the land of His sacred message and the abode of the greatest among His prophets, Muhammad, may God's peace and blessing be upon him.

Therefore, it is not strange that Iraq should rise up zealously behind the banner of God is great that is upheld by Saddam Husayn to lead the faithful gathering through the honor of this banner. It is also not strange that the hearts of the Arabs and the faithful, which are filled with faith in God, and their tongues, whenever there is an opportunity for them (?to speak out), and their arms should support stalwart Iraq.

As an embodiment of our belief in Almighty God and that we are the rightful heirs of all that is good and noble on this earth and as an embodiment of our role to protect Islam and the nation of the Koran of Arabs and other Muslims, we as the weapon of right are opposing the aggressors; we are challenging them with the strength of faith, and, using all available capabilities, which are abundant, we will defeat their gathering and destroy their dreams. Moreover, with the help of those supporting us, we will purge the Ka'bah and the prophet's tomb of the filth of aggression and vice of treason. The Ka'bah will be restored to us, and Jerusalem will be restored to us. They will forever remain a trust with us. So, let the enemies leave while they are still unscathed or they will leave covered with the blood of defeat. God will grant us victory.

Following is a roundup of the enemy's wretched, failed aggressive attempts, and our defiant forces' activities:

First, at 1900 today, our heroic missile forces pounded Tel Aviv with the giant al-Husayn rockets so that the Islamic, Arab, and Iraqi anger will fall on the heads of the Zionists. After fulfilling their task, our launchers returned to base safely, thanks be to God. May God protect the tough knights, the heroes of our missile force.

Second, with cowardice and rancor, the enemy continued to fire a number of their rockets and launch a number of raids on residential and civilian areas in our country, mounting 58 operations.

Third, our forces are confronting this foolish and crumbling approach with all their resolve. Our men have managed to down and destroy 13 air targets, both aircraft and missiles.

Fourth, some of the enemy raids originated across the Turkish border, from the bases of infidelity there. Three violations of Iranian airspace were also committed by the U.S. aircraft of infidelity in an attempt to attack our cities and villages in the eastern part of the country.

God, who gave Arabs and Muslims the honor of destroying the corrupt oppressive empires, today gives their grandchildren the same honor that will put an end to the unjust and odious domination of peoples by the United States. Let us march forward with God on our side.

[Signed] The General Command of the Armed Forces

[Dated] 14 Rajab 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 31 January 1991

Units Withdraw From Al-Khafji

NC0102162091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Military Communique No. 34 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 February]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With God's help [words indistinct] the American-Atlantic-Zionist aggression against the land of the Arabs and their holy shrines in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia], including the holy house of God and the tomb of the noble Prophet. These holy shrines belong to all the Muslims in the world. Our Iraqi people will not be compelled by anyone to ignore their role in liberating the Arab land, above all holy Jerusalem, from the filth of the Zionists.

All that God has granted to this struggling country in terms of material resources and courage in men's hearts [words indistinct] to serve heavenly values, preserve mankind's supreme ideals, apply virtue and justice, recover usurped rights, and force the supporters of falsehood, above all the U.S. Government and its allies, to depart from our land, which contains our holy shrines, and to acknowledge the right of our Palestinian Arab people to return to their homeland, and to stop putting obstacles and hatching conspiracies against the nation's renaissance and scientific progress and the restoration of its cultural and human role.

Let it be understood that any sacrifice made by the Iraqis will be paid many times more by the armies of infidels in

blood and materiel and to a degree that the policymakers and merchants of war in America and other aggressive states cannot bear.

All this will occur according to the wise policy of our leadership and as part of a strategy with defined objectives and clear landmarks. This strategy has taken everything into consideration and has been planned in a way that makes victory inevitable and the enemy's losses substantial, whether during their repeated attacks on our forces or in our successful and dynamic defense.

Our leadership has prepared all the factors that make final victory certain, with God's help.

The following is a roundup of the enemy's attacks and our activities:
1. The number of aggressive air sorties last night and today reached 94 sorties.
2. The Muhammad al-Qasim units completed their withdrawal to their original positions from which they advanced toward al-Khafji on the night of 30/31 January.
3. In these glorious days, the courage of men becomes evident and their fortitude becomes more obvious in pouncing with their shells and bullets on the ravens of the U.S. aggression, which express the cowardice of the U.S. Administration and its hesitation and vacillation with regard to our troops buildup [words indistinct] which, in the final analysis, show up the quivering of the will of falsehood before the strength of honest justice. Our heroic air and ground defenses were able to shoot down and destroy 20 air targets, both planes and missiles, today.

We thank God for his help. We extend all gratitude to the defenders and protectors of the homeland.

[Signed] Armed Forces General Command.

[Dated] 15 Rajab 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 1 February 1991

Three Planes Said Downed 1 Feb

NC0102090891 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0841 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Statement by military spokesman on 1 February; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, and compassionate: For the sake of the Holy Mosque, the point to which Arabs and Muslims turn their faces in prayer and the symbol of their unity; for the sake of the shrine of the master of all creatures and the last prophet, the great Muhammad; for the sake of beloved Palestine, its land and sanctities, its men, old and young alike, and its women and children; for the sake of the rights of Arabs which were wasted by the enemies; for the sake of the Arab wealth which was squandered by the rulers and looted by the forces of evil, primarily America; and for the sake of our right to a dignified life and a secure and prosperous livelihood, the Iraqis point their swords to injustice and the unjust and challenge tyranny, after taking all the necessary preparations for victory in the greatest showdown ever to be waged against the tyrants.

Today is yet another day on which men's determination is enhanced, the power of evil fades away, and the power of aggression weakens. After two weeks of the showdown, the cowards persist in their tyranny without achieving their goal in Iraq. They have continued their aggressive raids on our country. Last night there were 77 air raids. Our air and ground defenses intercepted them and shot down three aircraft.

O great Iraqi people: March toward increased steadfastness concerning the forces of barbarism. God backs the truth and the truthful.

[Dated] 1 February

Allied Pilots Said Guilty of 'War Crimes'

NC0102104691 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0831 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers, there is nothing unusual in the lowliness which has been displayed by the U.S., British, French, and Italian pilots. They are the descendants of those who committed the most despicable crimes against the world's nations not very long ago. Their crimes extended from Japan in the Far East to Latin America in the far west. They are the offspring and the tangible and spiritual inheritors of colonialism. Thus, it should not be amazing when they now display their skill against residential districts and civilian targets and when they strive to bombard these targets and to kill defenseless civilians and workers.

This is what their forefathers did when they had an absolute supremacy over people. Thus, the grandsons have decided to remain loyal to the extremely racist, ignoble, and criminal heritage of their forefathers. To tell the truth, we have not been surprised by these crimes. We well know the history of the countries of those pilots. It is a history full of crimes of racism and racial discrimination and of all manifestations of religious and chauvinistic fanaticism. The Arabs have (?suffered) a great deal from these countries' atrocities, the traces of which continue to be felt on both the physical and psychological levels.

Through their new crimes, these countries insist on reminding us of their past. The Arabs have never been deceived by the big claims by these countries' governments about democracy, legality, justice, equality, and other similar slogans. The Arabs cannot be deceived now by these or any other claims. George Bush, John Major, and Francois Mitterrand are only duplicates of other faces known to the Arabs by different names: Harry Truman, Anthony Eden, Guy Mollet, and other fanatic colonialists and defenders of Zionism. The Republicans

in these countries are like their Democrats; their Conservatives are like their Laborites; and their capitalists are like their socialists. They are all branches of the same wicked tree, which is colonialism, racism, arrogance, and aggression.

Moreover, the crimes of the U.S., British, French, and Italian pilots should be viewed as war crimes which violate the war laws and bases, particularly the laws and conventions which call for safeguarding civilians at times of war. Those pilots have deliberately bombarded purely residential districts and civilian installations which have nothing to do with the war effort. They have killed very large numbers of women, children, and old people with extreme cold-bloodedness. Moreover, some of these pilots were not satisfied with firing the missiles of their aircraft on residential districts, but, in a display of their rancor and hatred, went further to use their aircraft's machine guns to kill pedestrians in streets and alleys.

The behavior of those pilots is very far away from the honor and moralities of the military code. It is the behavior of ordinary criminals like that seen in American and European movies. Therefore, they should be dealt with on this basis. In other words, they should be dealt with on the basis of their being killers of defenseless children, women, and old people, not as soldiers waging a war against other soldiers.

The war criminals Bush, Major, Mitterrand, Fahd, and other allies and agents should know that these crimes will neither terrorize our people nor undermine their will. These crimes, in fact, will enhance our people's determination and resolve to go along the path of justice until a clear victory is achieved. Those should know that our people consider them like their pilots: that is, directly responsible for these crimes. They should know that they will not be pardoned but that they will be chased personally and that every one of them will receive the punishment he deserves. We are a people who do not give in to injustice and do not forgive the aggressors. Punishing the sinful aggressors is an Iraqi trait. Traitor Fahd, in particular, should know that the Iraqis will not be only after him but will chase every member of his family until the last root of this evil Jewish family plaguing the Arab land and holy places is uprooted.

IRNA Reports Attacks on Basra, Al-Faw

LD0102102591 Tehran IRNA in English 0927 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Khorramshahr, Feb. 1, IRNA—The Iraqi towns of al-Faw, Basra, Abu-al-Khasib and al-Zubayr were bombed by the U.S.-led air forces serveral times from last night till morning. The sound of American aircraft coupled with the roar of missiles fired by the attacking forces on Iraqi cities and the boom of Iraqi anti-aircraft batteries could be heard the whole night in the Iranian port-cities of Khorramshahr and Abadan.

In related news, the Western forces reportedly bombed, shelled or missiled convoys of Iraqi tanks and vehicles heading for the Saudi Arabian town of Ra's al-Khafji throughout last night, causing some casualties and losses. The claims could not be verified, and as in earlier cases the main target of the U.S.-West European axis were the defenceless civilians of Iraq.

Newsman Claims Two Ministers 'Liquidated'

PM3101163791 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 30 Jan 91 p 1

[Unattributed "News Report:" "Baghdad Experiences Fears of War and Liquidation"]

[Text] A Yemeni journalist who recently arrived in Damascus from Baghdad via Jordan has said that a military figure who is a member of the party Military Bureau in Baghdad has informed him that Saddam Husayn lives in a secret underground house in the Abu-Gharib quarter of Baghdad and that he leaves his house every morning in a tank to go to a military bunker in the al-Rashidiyah quarter, which is known for its dense palm trees, or to a house in the al-Dhahab al-Abyad village near the Abu-Gharib military camp.

The journalist said that he has learned that Saddam's palace is linked by a tunnel to the al-Khadra' quarter, in which Saddam Husayn owns more than 30 houses which have been registered in the names of his aides or sons. The journalist noted that this quarter has been turned into an exclusive security zone, where nobody is allowed to enter, and that more than 600 families whose loyalty is doubted by the Iraqi tyrant have been evacuated from this quarter. The journalist said that the residents of this area are now strictly people people who are close to the regime.

It has been observed that on 20, 21, and 22 January this area came under heavy allied air bombing. The Yemeni journalist said that Interior Minister Samir al-Shaykhli, one of Saddam's close confidants who was once entrusted with the task of evacuating cities and was granted wide powers to carry out this task, disappeared several days ago. The Yemeni journalist said that there is now sufficient evidence that Saddam Husayn has executed al-Shaykhli because Saddam has become increasingly suspicious of the people around him. However, officials in the Iraqi Ministry of Information have said that al-Shaykhli was hit in one of the air raids. Another official who is said to have been liquidated is Youth Minister Nuri Faysal. It is said that that he was murdered by Saddam Husayn's son 'Udayy.

The journalist affirmed that Brigadier General 'Abd Hamid, Saddam Husayn's personal aide, visited the Yemeni Embassy in the morning of the third day of the war and conveyed a special message to the Yemeni officials. The message casts doubt on the soundness of the position which was taken by certain Yemeni statesmen toward Saddam's policy on war and peace.

The journalist said that Baghdad expressed its annoyance at certain Yemeni officials and that Saddam Husayn actually rebuked Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, head of the Yemeni delegation that visited Baghdad, for bringing a proposal for a political settlement on the eve of the war containing, among other things, a point calling for Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. The Yemeni journalist said that al-'Attas left Baghdad with the impression that only military force could remove Saddam from Kuwait. The journalist said that talk is going round that Saddam should be killed by one of his personal aids. People close to Saddam Husayn, the journalist added, say that the Iraqi leader will most likely flee the country and that an official in the Ministry of War Industries has ventured to suggest that Switzerland could be his place of exile. According to this official, Saddam visited Geneva more than once before the war to get acquainted with the location and to ensure the requirements of his residence and stay there. The British paper THE DAILY MIRROR reported yesterday that the Swiss Government has disclosed the presence of Barzan al-Tikriti, Saddam's half-brother, in a posh mansion in a Geneva suburb. The paper said that the mansion, valued at more than 5 million pounds sterling, is surrounded by a large number of security guards. The family of Barzan al-Tikriti and families close to the Iraqi tyrant are living in that mansion.

In another development, SAWT AL-KUWAYT has learned that Barzan al-Tikriti arrived in Tunis last week to meet with a group of Iraqi terrorists and other mercenaries to discuss an Iraqi intelligence plan to set off bomb explosions and carry out other armed attacks against the interests of international and Arab organizations as well as those of Iraqis who are opposed to Saddam's occupation of Kuwait.

PNC Condemns 'Criminal U.S. Aggression'

NC0102125391 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih today received Salim al-Za'nun, deputy speaker of the Palestine National Council [PNC] and his accompanying parliamentary delegation. During the meeting the National Assembly speaker reviewed the imperialist-Zionist aggression led by the United States to destroy Iraq's scientific and economic strength, which is also a strength for the Arab nation to liberate Palestine. He noted that the imperialist-Zionist alliance has practiced the ugliest crimes through air raids on residential areas and scientific and cultural institutions, which have resulted in many civilian casualties. The National Assembly speaker also spoke about the brave stand and heroic steadfastness of the Iraqi people under President Saddam Husayn and their determination to foil the criminal U.S. aggression.

PNC Deputy Speaker Salim al-Za'nun praised the heroic steadfastness of the great Iraqi people under struggler President Saddam Husayn. He announced that the Palestinian people and all the resistance factions stand on the side of Iraq in its confrontation against the imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

The two sides also reviewed parliamentary relations between Iraq and the state of Palestine and ways to promote them in the future.

The meeting was attended by the chairman of the Arab and International Relations Committee at the National Assembly, members of the Assembly, and the ambassador of the state of Palestine in Baghdad.

Turkish Paper Cited on Iran, Iraq 'Agreement'

LD3101160891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1410 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Ankara, Jan 31 (TANJUG)—Iraq and Iran have under a secret agreement not only agreed on the removal of at least 200 Iraqi planes to Iran but also on the division of the Middle East, the Turkish daily HURRIYET said on Thursday.

According to the agreement, the two countries have established the borders of their future empire in which Kuwait and Saudi Arabia belong to Iraq and Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates to Iran.

The Turkish daily HURRIYET today published the full text of the secret agreement between the two countries which was allegedly signed by Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn and Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The daily said that the text of the agreement was revealed by a senior Iraqi official who fled to Turkey.

In the 12-point document, the removal of 200 Iraqi planes to Iran represents only a part of the "cooperation between the two countries in dividing the Middle East and the rich oil fields of the Gulf."

The agreement, allegedly signed directly before Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, envisages that "the two countries share oil from the occupied territories equally for two years and unite their forces against the forces in the region."

The publishing of the secret Baghdad-Tehran agreement has provoked a real shock in Turkey.

President Turgut Ozal has already warned that should Iran return Iraq's planes, it would mean that "the country has entered the war against the multi-national forces."

Peninsula 'Struggle Front' Issues Statement

NC2901012991 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2205 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Statement issued by the National and Pan-Arab Struggle Front in the Arabian Peninsula]

[Text] O honorable strugglers. O masses of our struggling people in the Arabian Peninsula, who have been outraged by the corrupt and hireling Saudi clan that led our country along this path of treason through its conspiracy against the Arab nation and its fateful causes at various times and which has sided with imperialism to carry out its aggressive schemes and plans.

Today, the entire plot has been exposed. Treacherous and savage premeditated aggression is being carried out against Iraq under the leadership of the United States and its accursed alliance, which includes Britain, France, the Netherlands, the Zionist entity, the agent Fahd regime, and the remnants of the buried Croesus [Kuwaiti] regime, which God has scattered all over the world. This aggression is a strike against pan-Arab renaissance and the liberation movement embodied in Iraq, which is using its science and technology to achieve a strategic balance with the usurping Zionist entity and to maintain its political independence.

O sons of our people. O masses of our glorious Arab nation. The National and Pan-Arab Struggle Front in the Arabian Peninsula calls upon to you to take a stand of pride, dignity, and sacred jihad in the trench of faith led by Iraq and its struggling leader Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him. It calls on you to confront this dirty conspiracy firmly and courageously by mobilizing all your resources and creativity to attack U.S.-Atlantic interests and British, French, and Dutch interests. These interests should be targets for attack and destruction. You must detonate the ground under the feet of the invaders who want to seize our homeland's and nation's wealth and to bury the Arab renaissance that has begun to grow in the Arab arena, represented by its striking vanguard, the people and army of Iraq.

O sons of our people. O masses of our nation. Iraq's battle is the Arab nation's battle. It is a battle to defend national sovereignty in the land of Arab Iraq. It is a battle for the liberation of our holy land in the Arab peninsula. It is for liberating our oil resources, preserving them, and using them for national and pan-Arab development.

Our battle today is the battle of all Arabs. It is the great battle of liberation, the battle of holy Jerusalem, of usurped Palestine, and of the Islamic holy places in the Arabian Peninsula.

This front holds the hireling Saudi clan regime responsible for the aggression and for taking a position in the trench of atheism and deviance and for actually participating in this aggression, in addition to allowing the infidel forces to use our land, the land of heavenly missions, as a base for aggression against Iraq and the Arab and Islamic nations. Every drop of blood spilled is the responsibility of this family, which will be cursed by history. The masses will punish this family, its agents, and all those who serve it.

The masses of our people in the peninsula know their responsibility before God, history, and the Arab and Islamic nations in the struggle to liberate the sacred land from this criminal and agent regime. With their determination, they will prove in these historic days that they are worthy to shoulder this responsibility.

The call for jihad has been voiced. The hour of national and historic action has struck. Greetings of respect to our martyrs in the Arabian Peninsula. Greetings of respect to the martyrs of the glorious Arab nation. Greetings of respect to the martyrs of Iraq and the nation in the great showdown, the mother of battles. Shame on the traitors like Fahd, Husni, the buried Croesus, and the oil amirs. Victory is for Iraq, the Arab nation, and faithful Muslims everywhere. God is great. If God supports you, no one can defeat you.

Paper Says 'Zero Hour' of Battle Here

NC3101214891 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1644 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] AL-QADISIYAH publishes its editorial today under the headline "With the Determination of Men and the Spirit of Martyrdom, the Heroic Army of Iraq Triumphs."

The paper says: From the beginning of the U.S. aggression against our people, Iraq has clearly understood that the real confrontation will be in the battlefield and that its conclusion in certain victory will be settled by our brave fighters, who cling to their positions with all of their military hardware and weapons awaiting the signal to repulse the aggression and destroy the enemy's war machine and human resources.

In our confrontation of U.S. barbarism against the people of Iraq and of the Western media campaign which is akin to psychological warfare, our faith has increased that Bush and his aides fear the confrontation and fighting in the battlefield because they have become quite certain of the capability of the Iraqi Army and of the force it possesses, a force that has been prepared for the day of reckoning when the gathering of the faithful under Iraq and the gathering of infidels under the United States meet.

There is no doubt that Bush's concern and fear of real combat were also caused by the fact that his failed administration is well aware of the firmness and forbearance of the Iraqi soldier and also of his innovative capabilities in combat and battle management under all circumstances, thanks to his unique combat experience as well as to the faith that he has in the justness of his cause. Consequently, this will eventually tilt the balance in his favor and cause him to triumph.

And here, the course of events and military operations has shown the soundness and rationality of our combat and military plans, not only with regards to attaching the highest importance to the ground battle, but also with regard to managing the first round in the mother of battles which ended in the defeat of the tyrannical U.S.

enemy's wager on high-tech weaponry and in the confrontation of its alleged air superiority with our conventional weapons, which are highly effective, as leader President Saddam Husayn declared in his recent interview with CNN.

The steadfastness of our heroic Armed Forces in the face of the U.S. machine of aggression and the beginning of the destruction of this machine ushers in the first steps on the road toward certain victory which will only be scored by the martyrdom-seeking and the fighting spirit marking the Iraqi combatant. This spirit, along with the other elements of power and capability that mark this combatant, is enough to inflict abject defeat on the gathering of the invading scoundrels, to foil their coward schemes to destroy Iraq, and to thwart their failed calculations which they drew up on paper, calculations that deluded them into believing that their brute force would move a single hair in the head of the Iraqi combatant, who has made a pledge to himself to raise aloft the banner of victory and pride in the mother of battles on the debris of the remnants of the Americans and their servile and treasonous supporters.

The next days will prove to the world how powerful is mujahid and patient Iraq, which for the first time in history is facing such a satanic aggressive buildup and such brute force with all firmness and faith. The whole world will listen to new feats of heroism by the Iraqi combatant while he destroys the invaders and pounds the dens of evil in the region. His heroism, daring spirit, and audacity will win the admiration of enemies even before he does the praise and commendation of brothers and friends.

The actual zero hour in the the battlefield has approached. This was the hour impatiently awaited by the heroic Iraqi Army. This Army has shown excessive patience with the barbarism and savagery of the Americans and Westerners which have been practiced against the Iraqi people in their cities and villages. This zero hour will herald the first leap in this Army's holy march toward the liberation of the lands of heavenly messages in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia]. Then the Americans will be taught a lesson in manliness and real combat. The marks and certificates of this lesson will be their blood which will be shed in rivers in which they will swim as floating corpses.

Through its symbol and leader Saddam Husayn, Iraq has declared that the mother of battles is an all-out and protracted one and that victory will be given to the combatants who demonstrate firmness and forbearance. Who else other than the Iraqi men? Those near and far attest to the Iraqi Army, to its might, to its audacity, and to its determined deeds in combat which begin with the cry God is great and ends with prayers of gratitude to the Almighty God for His victory which He will have granted us over the forces of deception, ignorance, and infidelity.

Blessings be upon you, heroic Iraqi Army for your patience and steadfastness in the face of American barbarism and savagery. Blessed be your assaults which fall on the heads of the American enemies as lightning that renders them incapable and impotent and which renders their vaunted weapons useless. These weapons and their electronic devices have betrayed them and rendered them incapable of correctly calculating the fighting spirit of the lofty Iraqi combatant and his high motivation to defend heroic and righteous Iraq. Thus, they have fallen in the abyss of remorse. However, the remorse of the scoundrel Americans and their servile allies will be useless.

Baghdad Radio to Arab Troops in Saudi Arabia

Urges Not To Fight 'Brothers'

NC3101193591 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1817 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The battle which has started and which is targeting Arab and Islamic Baghdad is the battle of Zionism. Those who massed their troops, be they Americans, Britons, Frenchmen, or dwarves here and there, are all working to serve Zionism. They will shed their blood to serve Tel Aviv. Perhaps this gathering, which they call international, can be understood, but why are some Arabs in the midst of this evil and filth? Yes, brothers. We use the word brothers while an indescribable pain is rending our hearts. We use the word brothers while a great sadness is engulfing our hearts. We never wanted and never even dreamed that the day would come in which we would see an Arab standing in a non-Arab trench fighting another Arab. Did you want this, brothers? Did you ever dream of such a thing, brothers? Have you asked yourselves such questions after decisions allowed you to be thrown in Hafr al-Batin under the command of the Americans so that you can serve as rifles to be used to kill Arab brothers and so that you will be killed there?

Is not the blood running in the veins of the Iraqis your blood? How can bullets be fired from the rifles you are carrying? How can your finger pull the trigger? Your blood runs in the veins of your Iraqi brother who is vindicating religion, sanctities, the soil, right, dignity, the poor, and those to whom injustice has been done. Is it impossible for an Egyptian to fight his own blood? How can a Syrian fight his own blood? Is it possible for the residents of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] or for any other Arab to resist his own blood? We are asking these questions while an excruciating pain is engulfing us. We want to see Arab blood run in harmony, to see Arabs fighting in the same trench, to see Arabs fighting the same enemy, and to see them scoring the same victory. We have a deep sense of pain when we ask these questions. We know that decisions over which you had no control are responsible for your deplorable current state of affairs. Do not, however, allow these decisions to

outweigh the dictates of your blood, the dictates of right, and the injunctions of the one God who created us as a unified nation.

Urges Attacks on Nation's Enemies

NC0102085491 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0708 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Arab brother, raise your head high and feel proud among the sons of other nations. Raise your head, brother, and be proud of your Iraqi brother who is standing steadfast and opposed to the strongest, largest, and most tyrannical of evil forces. Your Iraqi brother is confronting countless armies with composure and bravery. Such armies have never before assembled against one country as they have assembled against Iraq. Nevertheless your Iraqi brother is standing like a lofty mountain, unshaken and unafraid. Your Iraqi brother has confronted tens of thousands of air raids and missile attacks with patience and heroism, sure of the eventual victory that God has destined for him. He is holding steadfast and fighting in order to attain victory—victory only. Victory is destined for him in the beginning and the end.

This is a sufficient cause of pride for you, my Arab brother, to have a brother confronting all these evil forces without moaning, wailing, losing vigor, or relaxing. Who is like your Iraqi brother, who is like him, making this historic, heroic, rare stand? No one, no one can possibly make such a stand except you, Arab brother. No one can be so lofty except you, Arab brother. All you have to do is to take the first step. All you have to do is to begin. Stab the nation's enemies in any way you can. Strike at the nation's enemies in any way you can. Do not let them rest. Do not let them safely turn their backs to you. Make them turn their heads around in fear, trepidation, and panic. Show them all forms of contempt and hatred. Do not let them see anything except the glint of your knife.

AL-THAWRAH Praises French Minister's Stand

NC3101144691 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Jan (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH said today that French Foreign Minister Jean Pierre Chevenement's stand is not only splendid but is also worthy of respect. In an article, the paper noted that even before his resignation, Chevenement's stand had been praiseworthy because in all his statements since the beginning of the so-called Gulf crisis, Chevenement endeavored to preserve his country's independent position, which Mitterrand sold to the Zionists and Americans without receiving any clear compensation so far.

AL-THAWRAH pointed out that Chevenement's stand was a courageous one because he acted in accordance with the dictates of his responsibility as a defense minister who realized that his government had involved itself in an unjust, destructive war of aggression that would only entail costly and immense economic, political, and human losses for the French people.

The paper said that the man acted in accordance with the dictates of his conscience and conviction. He sacrificed his post because he did not believe in the legitimacy of the infamous Resolution No. 678 and all the consequences resulting from it and because he believed that France, the Arabs' friend, should be playing a different role.

The paper said: Unlike Mitterrand, who has fallen in the Gulf crisis by running after Bush and revealing his ugly, racist, and Zionist face, Chevenement has distinguished himself among Western politicians by his resignation, taking a splendid position worthy of the respect of all free and honorable people of the world.

Kurdish Radio Reports Airport, Refinery Bombed

LD0102094491 Tehran IRNA in English 0838 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Orumiyeh, Feb. 1, IRNA—The U.S.-led forces bombed two airports and an oil refinery in Kirkuk as well as a barrack in Irbil Thursday morning and afternoon, causing heavy losses, claimed a radio run by Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. The radio, monitored here last night, added that following the bombardment of Kirkuk airports, trailers were seen carrying the charred wreckages of several planes.

The radio also said that the warplanes of the U.S.-West European axis also bombed Kirkuk's power plant located 20 meters below ground level as a result of which columns of thick smoke blanketed the area for several hours. It did not make any mention of possible human losses.

The claim of the dissident Kurdish radio could not be confirmed independently.

Commentary Sees Saddam Taking Iraq to Abyss

LD3101135191 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Iraq in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Unattributed commentary: "On the Brink of the Abyss"]

[Excerpts] After all this destruction you are seeing around you, Iraqi brother, you must be wondering: What did we gain, what did we reap in the Saddam Husayn era? And was it good for Iraq? Who is going to rebuild Iraq, which was rich in resources and great with wealth, after all this destruction you are seeing around you. For more than 20 years Saddam Husayn's regime has been roughing us up. It has not given Iraq time to regain its breath. As soon as he finishes one war, he takes us into another, and as soon as he finishes with one problem he creates another problem for our country, and as soon as

he ends one massacre, he initiates another massacre. [passage omitted] We must do something before a black, unprecedented day comes, a day when Iraq will be unable to stand for years, when Iraq will no longer be an unified entity. Then all will feel bitter regret that will eat into our hearts, but it will be too late.

Our people are called on to put an end to the rule of the despot Saddam and to form a government of national salvation which would declare peace and put an end to the causes of the war by pullling out of Kuwait. This government would take part, along with the governments of the Arab states, in arrangements for security and peace in the region, to resolve the problems of the region, and to remove the causes for foreign intervention in our region.

The priority in our people's struggle is to overthrow the Saddam Husayn regime that has exhausted our homeland and people in these disasters. There is no hope that our homeland and the world will live in security and peace without putting an end to the Saddam Husayn regime because when one does not have something, one cannot give it.

'Terrorist Targets' Shelled Again in Security Zone

TA0102094791 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0900 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Excerpts] IDF [Israel Defense Forces] artillery again shelled terrorist targets north of the security zone during the night, our correspondent Hayim Hecht was told by the UN Interim Force in Lebanon headquarters. The UN officers reported that the fire was mainly directed at the central sector. [passage omitted]

Metulla residents slept in shelters last night. Our correspondent Menahem Horowitz reports that the IDF asked the residents in the area to sleep in shelters out of fear of katyusha shellings from Lebanon. The IDF and SLA [South Lebanese Army] are maintaining a high alert to prevent further shelling.

[Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew at 0930 GMT on 1 February reports that "many katyushas were also fired this morning at the security zone. They fell near the township of Nabatiyah, north of the zone, but there were no casualties."]

Lebanese Affairs Coordinator on Attacks

TA3101133191 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Uri Lubrani, Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebanon, says there is a clear attempt headed by Yasir 'Arafat to act against Israel's northern border. Israel will continue to ensure that the border will remain secure. He was interviewed by reporter Alan Ben-'Ami.

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Uri Lubrani, there are Scud missiles coming at Israel from the east, now katyushas from the north. Is Israel facing a second front?

[Lubrani] Well, I do not think one can really define this as a second front. Yes, there is an attempt to enliven our northern front. It has been in the wind for some time, and we have seen some signs of it in the last two or three days, even tonight. I can say only one thing: It confines itself to the best of our knowledge to an attempt on the part of 'Arafat to join in and prove his participation in Saddam Husayn's effort.

[Ben-'Ami] If I understand you, you are saying that Yasir 'Arafat's pledge to refrain from terrorism, to refrain from attacks, is now null and void, is ended, and that once again 'Arafat and Fatah are taking part in the overall Palestinian attacks and moves against Israel?

[Lubrani] I have no doubt about that. I think that 'Arafat himself is making it quite and abundantly clear that he has joined hands with Saddam Husayn. This is clear now; this is public now. It has been manifested all over. They have joined hands in this confrontation, in this struggle. I may add that the fate of Saddam Husayn is going to be the fate of Yasir 'Arafat.

[Ben-'Ami] And the Americans have said that they are not targeting Saddam Husayn as a personality. Are you suggesting here that Israel is targeting Yasir 'Arafat as a specific individual target?

[Lubrani] Well, I do not think so. I mean, you know what our policy is. We do not target personalities but what he stands for; and what he speaks for is the organization which he heads and this organization is now aligned and allied with Saddam Husayn.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr. Lubrani, Israel has responded to the katyusha attacks. Is there any concern here whether this military action by Israel in Lebanon may in fact serve Saddam Husayn's purpose of getting Israel involved in the Gulf war in some way or shape, thus affecting the coalition, particularly the Arab partners in the coalition?

[Lubrani] I do not think so. What we have said, and we have made it quite clear that we regard our northern front as an active front which we have to husband and protect all the time. What we are doing up north is just another phase in the long chain of actions to make sure that the northern border is secure on both sides of the border.

[Ben-'Ami] The Americans have frequent consultations with Israel urging restraint regarding response to the Iraqi Scuds. What about Israel moving into action in Lebanon? Is there any request from the Americans here for restraint?

[Lubrani] I have not heard of any request of this sort. I think that what we are doing up north is part of the ordinary course of business, and it is being considered as such and I do not think there is any linkage between our attitude with regard to our participation in the efforts against Iraq with what we have to do and what we will do concerning the security of the northern border.

[Ben-'Ami] You talked about Palestinian actions against Israel from the north. What about Shiite actions: The activities of Amal, more particularly of Hizballah. Has there been anything happening here?

[Lubrani] I do not see the interest of Amal now to stir up a front which will inevitably cause a lot of suffering to Amal's grass roots in south Lebanon. Therefore, I confine my finger pointing at the Palestinians—be it 'Arafat and any other kind of organization which is active up north. [end recording]

Eighth Iraqi Missile Attack Reported 31 Jan

West Bank Hit, No Casualties Cited

TA3101171191 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1705 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Report by army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe—live]

[Excerpts] A Scud missile was fired at Israel this evening from west Iraq. A siren was sounded throughout Israel at

1800 [1600 GMT]. About 10 minutes later, it transpired that only one missile had landed. Most areas were given the all-clear and people were asked to leave the sealed rooms and remove their gas masks. There have been no reports of casualties or damage. The Israeli Army spokesman said that the missile landed east of the Green Line, in the Samaria region, but would not specify the exact location. [passage omitted]

It has not been reported whether Patriot missiles were fired at the Scud. So far, 30 missiles have been fired at Israel from west Iraq. Today was the eighth missile attack on Israel.

Scud Said Conventionally Armed

TA3101222591 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 2200 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] It seems that no one was hurt and no damage was caused by the missile attack on Israel this evening. A Scud missile outfitted with a conventional warhead fell east of the Green Line, in Samaria. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman did not report whether Patriot missiles had been launched at the Iraqi missile to intercept it.

Residents in the area where the missile fell reported that approximately five minutes passed between the sounding of the siren and the falling of the missile. They claimed that they heard explosions when the missile fell.

[Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew at 2206 GMT, in a report by Amir Hay from the area where the missile hit, adds that the missile was fired from west Iraq and that it fell "near one of the Arab villages in Samaria. The IDF immediately declared the area closed." Hay reports that the missile struck "an open field" and that because of bad weather conditions this evening "the IDF will resume the investigations tomorrow at dawn."]

Ready for Chemical Attack; Security Up

TA3101181791 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Police Minister Roni Milo says police are prepared for a possible chemical missile attack on Israel's civilian population. Milo said that police bomb squads have been trained to deal with chemical materials.

The minister also said that security in Tel Aviv has been beefed up with additional Border Police units.

Reportage on German Aid Package Delivery

First Official Direct Delivery

TA3101114991 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Statement by German Ambassador Otto Von der Gablentz on the delivery of German weapons to Israel; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] The operation beginning tonight is the first direct delivery of weapons material, military materials by Germany, officially to Israel. This is a very important operation and makes it clear that Germany stands as Minister Genscher put it here a couple of days ago: squarely behind Israel at this critical juncture.

I do not think this is any case intended to balance—as you put it—the help of some German firms, illegally, to cooperate with Saddam Husayn in providing him with the chemical potential. This is an act which we look at with a deep feeling of shame that German firms, although illegally, could do that. We are trying to do our best to prevent this in the future and to prosecute those who have taken part in it.

And, as a German, I am happy at this stage that the Germans and the German Government—as comes out very clearly in the governmental declaration of the first Government of the United Germany two days ago—stands so squarely behind Israel at this critical time for the State of Israel.

Defense Adviser Comments

TA3101175091 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1705 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Telephone interview with Dani Nave, Defense Minister Moshe Arens' media adviser, by army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Menashe] Dani Nave, is the first plane with German aid equipment due tonight?

[Nave] Yes, the first shipment will arrive tonight. It will carry protective gear and medical supplies. As the Bonn Government announced, Germany has decided to extend a wide range of aid to Israel.

A day or two ago, a delegation composed of representatives of the Israeli Defense Ministry and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] visited Germany. It was headed by Dr. Hanan Alon, the Defense Ministry's head of the Foreign Affairs Department, and by Major General Dani Yatom, chief of the IDF's Planning Branch. The delegation's talks in Germany came in the wake of German Foreign Minister Genscher's talks in Israel.

The Germans offered us large-scale assistance; we did not ask for it. They came to us and said that in view of the missile attacks on Israel, they are offering the aid. I think everyone can understand the background for the Germans' desire to help us. I am referring to the almost daily reports on German assistance to the Iraqi war machine and, even worse, to the Iraqi missile launching capability and chemical warfare potential.

As you have said, the first German aircraft arrives tonight, and I assume more will arrive in the next few days. At this stage, they will bring protective gear and medical supplies.

Netanyahu on German Aid, Cooperation After Crisis

TA0102020291 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu says the PLO is trying unsuccessfully to open up a new front on Israel's northern border under the influence of Saddam Husayn. Netanyahu told reporter Jack Katzenell Israel would continue with its policy of striking at the terrorists in their bases.

Turning to the disclosures that German Government officials knew about German companies upgrading Iraq's Scud missiles, Netanyahu said these officials should be prosecuted, as well as the companies.

[Begin recording] [Netanyahu] We appreciate the bilateral assistance that Germany is now offering Israel. We think that this is in the interest of creating a stable Middle East against the Saddams of this world. But I think we should draw a distinction between the bilateral assistance—in military terms and humanitarian assistance that Germany has offered Israel—and the questions that concern all of us about the performance of German companies that supplied Saddam Husayn with the weapons of death. We think that the German Government has to take and is taking concrete actions along three tiers: The first is to tighten the laws to punish the offending companies; the second is to indeed punish the offending companies; and the third, in view of the reports that we have heard recently, is to bring to trial officials of the German Government that have broken German law and helped Saddam Husayn. This is what Germany has to do to address that part of that record, and that has nothing to do with the assistance that Germany is giving Israel.

[Katzenell] Since the United States and the Soviet Union issued this joint communique, which surprised Israel, on an issue affecting Israel, is the cooperation between the United States and Israel as close as you and other officials of the Israeli Government have been led to believe in the past two weeks?

[Netanyahu] Yes, it is. We have said that we would obviously prefer to be consulted next time, and we have been promised that that would be the case.

[Katzenell] But how did this happen, then, since you were told that the consultation would be close and cooperation would be complete?

[Netanyahu] Well, it has been in the case of this crisis. I think that we would like to see it in the discussions about the post-crisis situation as well. [end recording]

Levi on U.S. Assurance of No Linkage With Gulf

TA3101190291 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1750 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by political correspondent Shlomo Ganor on 31 January; place not given—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Text] [Levi] The German airlift includes items that are very important to Israel, ranging from missiles to submarines, armored personnel carriers, protective gear against chemical attacks, etc.

[Ganor] Mr. Levi, the Americans say they have destroyed the Iraqi missile launchers. Is Jerusalem satisfied?

[Levi] Of course, each day that the American troops and their allies erode Saddam Husayn's terrifying might—which has now been revealed to consist of a vast arsenal—actually brings nearer the end of the nightmare created by Saddam Husayn and raises hope for peace in the future. The campaign is not yet over, and that is how people should perceive it. All the U.S. activities and achievements should be seen as a complex package whose purpose is to do away with the Iraqi threat.

[Ganor] Does the threat of missile attacks on Israel still exist?

[Levi] The danger still exists, and we should not forget it. What the Americans and their allies are doing is very important, but they have not yet completed their job; as long as this is the case the danger persists.

[Ganor] And what if a chemical missile were fired at Israel?

[Levi] Why should we deal with hypotheses? We hope that does not happen. As we have said time and again, Israel retains the option to respond. Israel is capable of responding, and has examined all the ways and possibilities, including repercussions and the like. In this respect, I would say that if the provocations continue and as soon as it makes up its mind, Israel will know how to respond. As I said, I hope we will not have to do that and that the danger will be pushed away from Israel.

[Ganor] Mr. Levi, do the clarifications we have received from Washington concerning the nonexistence of a linkage [last word in English here and elsewhere] satisfy you personally?

[Levi] I think so. We received clarifications from the U.S. State Department last night, and U.S. Administration officials talked with our ambassador. Not only have we been given clarifications, but also assurances, that the United States has changed neither its policy nor the objectives of the Gulf war, that there is no linkage whatsoever—the White House issued a statement to this effect to the whole world, us included—and that the so-called international conference or any sort of solution of the Israeli-Arab conflict has not been introduced. It should be known, however, that Israel rebels against things done behind its back or attempts to use pressure as a solution. Israel is interested in peace, too.... [broadcast of interview ends due to missile attack siren]

Missile Threat Exists Despite Efforts

TA3101225191 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 2206 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Israel deeply appreciates the allied forces' actions against the Iraqi missile launchers, but one must not forget that the threat has not yet been removed. These remarks were made this evening by Foreign Minister David Levi. A few minutes after he made this comment, another missile was launched at Israel. Our political correspondent Natan Gutman talked to the foreign minister before and after the siren:

[Begin recording] [Gutman] Only a few minutes after he ended his address to members of a French Jewish solidarity mission, Foreign Minister David Levi found time to answer journalists' questions. The missile threat has not yet been removed, the foreign minister emphasized:

[Levi] The danger still exists, and one should always bear this in mind. What the United States and its allies are doing is very important, but they have not yet completed the job. As long as the mission has not been accomplished, the danger remains.

[Gutman] Minister Levi's timing could not have been better: Even as he was speaking, the siren was sounded throughout the country. Levi was rushed to the sealed room at the Jerusalem Theater and his aides quickly brought his protective kit.

When he left the sealed room, Levi appeared cool, calm, and collected when he approached the television cameras outside:

[Levi] I have lived through such times for years, and I had small children. That was when katyushas fell on Bet She'an and there were no bomb shelters or ditches. These trying times have been forced upon us since the declarations announcing every option to eliminate us is open. We have withstood this test as though we were on the battlefield. [end recording]

Bessmertnykh Sends Levi 'Warm and Friendly' Letter

TA0102125591 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Feb 91 p A2

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar and Isabella Ginor]

[Excerpt] In a letter to Foreign Minister David Levi, new Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh expressed hope for the establishment of relations and for a personal friendship. Bessmertnykh's warm and friendly letter was sent in response to Levi's congratulatory message on the Soviet minister's senior appointment.

Political circles in Jerusalem believe that Bessmertnykh, who became closely familiar with Jewish issues during his prolonged tenure in the United States and who came to realize their considerable influence on the U.S. Administration and Congress, will make an effort to develop friendly ties with Israel. [passage omitted]

New U.S. Position Called 'Turning Point'

TA3101195291 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpts] The U.S. State Department has advised the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem that the United States and the Soviet Union now believe that the promotion of the peace process in the Middle East should begin with the Arab countries; the Palestinian issue will be addressed later. The Foreign Ministry views this as an adoption of the Israeli stance as presented and elucidated by Foreign Minister David Levi in recent months. Our political correspondent 'Imanu'el Halperin has more:

A favorable turning point, said Foreign Ministry sources, although these developments should be viewed cautiously: New formulations made during wartime do not necessarily constitute firm political assets. [passage omitted]

It should be noted that presently, Jerusalem and Moscow maintain ongoing political ties. Arye Levin, the senior Israeli diplomat in Moscow, yesterday held talk.. with Soviet Foreign Ministry officials; he is to meet with more Soviet officials early next week. Israel has expressed its appreciation for the warnings Moscow had issued to Iraq before the war, and today the Soviet Union made it plain that it recognizes Israel's right to self-defense against Iraqi attacks.

Satisfaction Expressed in Cooperation With U.S.

TA3101063691 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0508 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Report by army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe]

[Excerpts] Security and military sources pointed out with satisfaction that over the last few days there has been an important turning point in the scope of cooperation with the United States. David 'Ivri, the director general of the Defense Ministry, reported to Defense Minister Moshe Arens on the results of his talks with Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney and with Pentagon officials during his trip to Washington. In the course of his visit 'Ivri requested the start of military cooperation between the two countries. The talks were described as good.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that the German Government will finance the construction of two Dolphin submarines. This is a result of the decision by the German cabinet to extend widespread defense aid to the State of Israel. The submarines will be built according to the original plan in the German shipyards. The Israeli Navy expressed satisfaction. The German decision to assist Israel no doubt came after the dimensions of German aid to Iraq in the development and production

of nonconventional weapons became known. Following a series of debates, Defense Minister Moshe Arens had decided in December to cancel the submarine project due to budgetary constraints. [passage omitted]

In addition to the submarines, Germany will supply Israel with a Patriot missile battery and 100 missiles, eight APC's designed to detect and identify chemical substances in a contaminated battlefield, protective equipment for soldiers, and protective equipment for chemical and biological warfare, such as gas masks. [passage omitted]

Commentary Sees Danger of Weakening in U.S. Resolve

TA3101124791 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 31 Jan 91 p 6

[Commentary by Tzvi Gilat: "Not Worried by Linkage; Worried by Cease-Fire"]

[Text] The White House was quick to clarify, and Israel's official representatives quickly accepted: There is no linkage [all references to linkage here and throughout item in English] between the Gulf crisis and the Arab-Israeli conflict. "There is no linkage" has already become a kind of slogan, while all sides involved know that in fact there is a linkage: Once the Gulf crisis is over, the world will rush to dissolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. Naturally, the question is how will the crisis end. The way in which it will end and the alignment of the forces once it is over—as well as the linkage—will draw the lines of pressures on Israel, the Arab countries, and the Palestinians.

It was precisely this point that alarmed Jerusalem. It was not the linkage, but the fact that the first clause of the joint U.S.-Soviet statement speaks about the end of hostilities when Iraq begins to withdraw from Kuwait.

Over the past several weeks, the Americans have made Israel feel that while the official goal of the war—Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait—has not changed, in practice they see eye to eye with Israel on the real goal: to wipe out Saddam's regime, preferably wiping him out, too, and to destroy the Iraqi military threat, for which Israel is currently paying the price in casualties and property damage. The policy of restraint is based on the following rationale: In view of the fact that Israel's ability to act against the Iraqi threat depends on U.S. compliance and because the United States is operating against the threat anyway, we had better wait.

The joint statement, however, implies that under certain circumstances (withdrawal from Kuwait), the Americans will not go all the way and Israel will not be able to strike Iraq. Unlike their statements in the past, last week Shamir and Arens made it clear that Israel is not taking action because there is a lack of coordination (meaning: lack of agreement) with the Americans. Even those in the government who support the line of restraint stress that although the public supports it, restraint cannot go on forever and that this has to be made very clear to the Americans.

The joint statement has raised the fear that Israel may find itself facing a not completely destroyed Iraqi threat without having exploited its prerogative to respond. The White House clarifications pacify but do not remove the fears. Jerusalem believes that the United States may be determined to destroy Saddam, but the Soviets may view the announcement as authorization to try to push the UN Security Council to offer a compromise. Several days after the war in the Gulf started, Belgium and Austria tried to propose a cease-fire; they were overruled. If the Russians do that, they will be able to crack the coalition, which could weaken the current level of U.S. resolve.

First Death in Gaza Since Gulf War; 220 Detained

TA3101134591 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 31 Jan 91 p A2

[Report by Eytan Rabin and Yizhar Be'er]

[Excerpt] Ibrahim al-'Ayn Jawwad Abu-Jalal, a 29-year-old resident of the al-Mughazi refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, was killed by an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] unit yesterday after trying to snatch the gun of the unit's commander.

Military sources yesterday reported that an IDF unit that patrolled the refugee camp noticed three residents who had violated the curfew. The soldiers called on the three to halt, but al-'Ayn tried to snatch the gun of the unit's commander. When the attacker refused to stop and tried to escape, he was shot and killed.

This is the first fatality in the territories since the war in the Gulf broke out. The defense establishment has announced that it would take firm action against residents of the territories who violate the curfews, and that the conditions of war apply to the territories.

Palestinian sources reported that in several locations there were demonstrations and clashes with the Army. There were no reports of casualties from these locations.

Yesterday, the IDF allowed residents of Rafah and other locations to obtain food supplies, and lifted the curfews for a few hours. In the Gaza Strip many residents have been found to violate the curfews, and so far 220 have been detained.

It is unclear when the general curfew in the Gaza Strip will be lifted. It is possible that certain leeway will be given to the population, but the curfew will not be lifted. This is the longest curfew imposed on the Gaza Strip since the intifadah started. [passage omitted]

French Socialist Delegation Visits Israel

PM3001113091 Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Jan 91 p 5

[Patrick Jarreau report: "Mr. Mauroy Outlines Plan for Peace Settlement with Palestinians in Tel Aviv"]

[Text] Tel Aviv—Mr. Mauroy arrived in Tel Aviv on Monday 28 January heading a French Socialist Party [PSF] delegation which had come to express solidarity with the Israelis, who are facing Iraqi attacks, to explain France's position in the conflict and to start thinking about the outlines of a future peace settlement.

Right from his talks with Shimon Peres and the Labor Party leaders—even before he met with Mr. David Levy and Mr. Yitzhaq Shamir on Tuesday—the PSF first secretary was able to gauge the Israelis' criticism of France. In their view, France is guilty of having armed Iraq and of continuing to do so after the end of the war with Iran, and finally of having accepted the idea of a link between the (prior) withdrawal of Iraqi troops and the (subsequent) settlement of the Palestinian problem.

Regarding the first grievance, Mr. Mauroy replied that France had not supplied Iraq with any nonconventional missiles or equipment or any elements likely to be included such weapons. "There are no French parts in the Scud missiles," he said. The former prime minister recalled that, during the war between Tehran and Baghdad, it was France's security, threatened by Iran, which was at stake and that, after the end of the war, once the last contracts had been fulfilled, arms sales to Iraq had stopped.

Regarding the French proposal for an international conference on the Near East problems, including the Palestinian problem, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, chairman of the National Assembly finance commission, explained that its sole aim in Francois Mitterrand's mind was to maneuver Saddam Husayn into a corner. When he rejected the precondition which would have made that conference possible, it was clear that the Iraqi president did not care about the Palestinians and was using them as a pretext to retrospectively justify the annexation of Kuwait.

The PLO Disqualified?

The PSF delegation, which also includes Marcel Debarge, the party's number two, and Gerard Fuchs, deputy chief of the national secretariat for European affairs—chosen instead of Pierre Guidoni, who is in charge of international relations but is a member of Jean-Pierre Chevenement's group—reaffirmed to its interlocutors that the Palestinian problem cannot be disregarded in the search for a settlement. This settlement, according to the French Socialists, still depends on what they chose to call not an "international conference"—a formula which the Israelis reject—but a "conference for peace," which, after Iraq's defeat, will have the task of ending the state of war.

Mr. Mauroy outlined what could be a step by French diplomacy toward the Israelis, explaining that the PLO's alliance with Iraq disqualifies the Palestinian organization from participating in a peace settlement. The idea put forward by the Socialists is for negotiations in several stages, the first of which could take the form of preliminary direct talks between the Israelis and "internal" Palestinian representatives, followed by a conference which would deal with the region's economic problems.

The resentment toward France which is widespread in Israel, serves the Jerusalem government's objectives too much to be entirely spontaneous. Mr. Mitterrand, whose power of initiative is now neutralized by the war, may in the future return to being the troublemaker he was before 15 January, and the Israeli Government is pinning all its hopes of securing a favorable outcome from the United States on its enforced "restraint." By coming to Israel in these circumstances, the Socialists took the risk of seeming to accept the allegation of guilt and to agree to France being placed on the same plane as Germany with regard to its military cooperation with Iraq, which would suit Mr. Shamir. However, this risk struck them as secondary to the advantage of opening dialogue and discussing as of now, on the basis of the principles upheld by Paris, peace prospects which are not necessarily those which the Israeli Government has in mind.

Arab Lawyers Body Forms Tribunal To Try Bush

JN3101133691 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 31 Jan 91 p 20

[Text] Amman—The General Secretariat of the Arab Lawyers Union has issued a statement announcing the formation of a world justice tribunal to try U.S. President George Bush for his crimes against the Arab nation.

The statement says: Now that George Bush has overstepped all red lines, making the term "war criminal" applicable to him; now that he has moved from the stage of planning to threaten world peace and security to that of aggression and destruction; now that he has gone too far in imposing the economic siege on the Iraqi people and depriving them of food, medicine, and even infant milk; now that he has supported and continues to support Zionism in consecrating its occupation of Palestine and killing innocent people; the preparatory committee of the world justice tribunal has prepared bills and procedures to try war criminal Bush in particular and the imperialist policy in general in accordance with Article 1, Paragraph A, Clause 6 of the international law principles as recognized by the Nuremberg tribunal charter and adopted by the United Nations in 1950. This is because Bush's actions constitute crimes against humanity; and he, as well as these crimes, should be exposed and their dimensions and dangers be disclosed to world conscience.

The preparatory committee will announce the date and venue of the trial as soon as the relevant documents are finalized.

Civilian Truck Attack Called U.S. 'Brutality'

JN3101108491 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 31 Jan-1 Feb 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Brutality vs. Law"]

[Text] "If international law were to be conceived as an exclusive Western system which excludes the vast majority of mankind," an American intellectual once wrote, "it has no creative potential for solving difficult problems. The organised world community, repudiates such an exclusivist conception of international law."

The same concept presumably applies to international treaties, like the Geneva conventions, which illegitimise and ban armies from attacking civilians in times of war. The U.S. and its military allies are fighting Iraq supposedly in defence of international law and legitimacy. But when their bombs start falling on civilian targets, easily identifiable targets, there can be doubt that people will begin to question their real motives and reasons behind waging the war against Iraq.

The fact that Jordanians had been sceptical from the beginning about the Bush administration's true objectives in building up and preparing for war in the Gulf might have been responsible for those bombing raids against Jordanian civilian trucks and cars crossing from Iraq into the Kingdom. But if this is really the case, then that international law which the Americans have come here to uphold is no more than the law of the jungle which we all abhor. This is for the simple reason that people's feelings are not the same as governments' actions, and then because this country's official stance has always been against war and bloodshed and totally committed to playing the humanitarian role that somebody has had and will continue to play in this conflict.

It is of course possible that the American commanders in the Gulf have had other reasons for instructing their aircraft pilots to attack Jordanian vehicles transporting people and oil into the kingdom. Their frustration about missing Iraqi military targets may be one of them. Severing all remaining links between Iraq and the rest of the world could be another. The most plausible explanation for the naked aggression, however, appears to be that of a concerted effort by the Americans and their coalition partners to pressure Jordan into submitting to their will and diktats insofar as the war in this region is going.

Whatever the reason is behind this inexplicable and unjustified attack against innocent people, Jordan, as Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri told Parliament last night, will not shift course and will continue to stick to its principled position of opposing this mad and pointless war.

But if the rest of the world needed proof that the Americans are bombing not only military targets in Iraq but also civilians and population centres, it need not go any farther than looking at the pictures from the Baghdad-Amman highway over the past three days. The death of four innocent Jordanians and the wounds of so many others are, will always be, a tragic reminder of the unspeakable brutality America and Co. has committed in launching its war against Iraq.

'Al-Jihad Brigades' Claim French Center Fire

NC3101145791 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] An unidentified caller has contacted AFP in Amman to claim responsibility for the fire that broke out in the French Cultural Center in the Jordanian capital. Responsiblity for the fire was claimed on behalf of a hitherto unknown organization. Our correspondent in Amman Randah Habib reports:

[Habib] The French Cultural Center in Amman was attacked yesterday by an unknown number of people who entered the second floor of the building, poured gasoline inside the library hall, and set the library ablaze.

The center's sources have said that the perpetrators left a gas cylinder inside the library, which the fire department managed to remove before it exploded.

Written on the library's walls were the words (?lethal and harmful) and three letters which are believed to be an abbreviation for the al-Jihad Brigades, a hitherto

unknown organization which claimed responsibility for the fire in a telephone call to our radio station.

A person claiming to speak on behalf of the organization said that the operation was in response to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's call for striking at Western interests. He pointed out that the al-Jihad Brigades is the new name given to the Islamic Struggle Front [Jabhat al-Nidal al-Islami] and the Revolutionary Communist Arab Party. The latter had earlier claimed responsibility for planting two explosive devices in front of two branches of a British bank in Amman, although security forces said that the two packages which were planted did not include explosives.

This was the first operation against French interests in Jordan.

Security Source on Fire

NC3101151791 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] A responsible source in the Public Security Directorate has stated the following: At 2230 yesterday, Wednesday, 30 January 1991, an unknown person succeeded in entering the French Cultural Center building in Jabal Al-Luwaybidah in Amman after shattering a rear window. He set fire to the rooms in the building. Several books and pieces of furniture in these rooms were burned.

The source said that the fire was controlled at an early stage and was prevented from spreading to other parts of the building. The source affirmed that the security departments are investigating the incident.

Energy-Saving Measures To Begin 5 Feb

NC3101151191 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] In implementation of the Council of Ministers decision on energy-saving measures in view of the current circumstances, the prime minister has issued the following order:

1. The operation of private passenger cars with white, yellow, or foreign license plates, will be organized as follows as of Tuesday morning, 5 February 1991:

a. Cars with license plate numbers beginning from the right with an odd number will be allowed to operate on odd days of the month.

b. Cars with license plate numbers beginning from the right with an even number will be allowed to operate on even days of the month.

Cars found in violation of these regulations will be impounded and cars with illegal or unauthentic license plates will be confiscated. The security organs will implement these measures.

2. The use of government cars with red or blue license plates will be reduced by half. The quantity of fuel allocated for heating purposes in government departments and public institutions will be reduced by 25 percent.

Activity Resumes at al-Aqabah; 8 Ships Arrive

JN3101140191 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic 31 Jan 91 p 1

[Text] Al-'Aqabah—PETRA—Life is gradually being restored to the Port of al-'Aqabah for the first time since the beginning of the Gulf war.

Shipping company sources said that the Port of al-'Aqabah has witnessed noticeable activity over the past two days as many ships loaded with imported goods and raw materials anchored at the port and others left loaded with Jordanian industrial products for export to Europe and Asia.

Eight ships docked at the port this week. Two of these left al-'Aqabah carrying Jordanian phosphate exports, while the remaining six ships are still anchored at the port unloading their cargoes of wheat, rice, corn oil, and ammonium nitrate and to load fertilizers and phosphate for export.

Jordanian shipping sources said that 19 ships are on their way to the Port of al-'Aqabah carrying raw materials, foodstuffs, and various machinery. They will unload their cargoes before exporting Jordanian industrial products such as phosphate, cement, and other industrial materials.

These sources also pointed out that the ships that are anchored at the port and those bound for the Port of al-'Aqabah are owned by international companies from 16 countries.

Explosion, Shooting Heard in West Beirut

NC3001174091 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] A short while ago, our correspondent reported that an explosion echoed in al-Mazra'ah area in West Beirut at 1900 today. This was followed by shooting and ambulances were heard rushing to the scene.

Qatari Embassy Target

NC3001175291 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1732 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] We have just received the following from the news desk: Further to our report at the beginning of the newscast, it has now become known that the explosion that took place at 1905 today targeted the Qatari Embassy at the end of Corniche al-Mazra'ah, near the house of Chamber Speaker Husayn al-Husayni. Sources in the internal security forces did not report any human losses, but said the blast was caused by an explosive charge that had been placed in a trash barrel near the Qatari Embassy. It is worth mentioning that the embassy is only occupied by the Qatari students' office. The explosion may be related to the Gulf war.

Bomb Explodes Near Italian Bank

NC3101104191 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Lebanese police have announced that an explosive device went off near an Italian bank in Beirut late Wednesday night, but it did not claim any victims. This is the third such attack in less that 24 hours against the countries involved in the alliance against Iraq.

Two bombs had earlier been targeted against the Qatari and Kuwaiti Embassies in the Lebanese capital, but there were no victims.

EC Envoys Meet, Discuss Attacks

NC3101180591 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] At a meeting held at the British ambassador's residence, the ambassadors of the EC member states accredited to Lebanon reviewed domestic and regional developments as well as the threats which some ambassadors and embassies have received. They also reviewed possible attacks on some foreign interests in Lebanon against the background of the Gulf war.

Karami on 'Armed' Groups, Palestinian Talks

NC3101184991 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Prime Minister 'Umar Karami reiterated today that a decision to dispatch the Army to southern Lebanon has been made. Karami added: Meetings are being held with the armed parties to discuss the issue with them. As far as the Amal Movement and Hizballah are concerned, I believe that there is no longer any problem in this regard. As for the Palestinian side, negotiations with it are currently under way. God willing, these negotiations will produce a positive outcome.

REUTER quoted Lebanese Government sources as saying that Palestinian officials loyal to Yasir 'Arafat have reservations about withdrawing from Iqlim al-Tuffah to pave the way for the Lebanese Army to deploy in the area. The Palestinian officials added that this would cause them to be removed from the equation at a time when the Gulf war is in full swing.

Ja'ja' Says Militias Will Not Disband

NC0102090991 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] In a statement to AL-LIWA', Lebanese Forces [LF] leader Dr. Samir Ja'ja' affirmed that the militias will neither reconcile nor disband under the current government. Ja'ja' called for changing the current government, describing it as an additional problem and an imbalanced government. He said any government in the world has to be based on political forces, noting that this government does not include the major parties. He said: We will file a suit against the 30-member government on behalf of all those who have been harmed by excesses. Ja'ja said the state is treating the LF in a police manner to force it to accept the status quo. He said that what happened was a departure from the Greater Beirut security plan. He referred to unfulfilled promises to tackle the excesses. Ja'ja' said the timing of his final resignation from the government will be decided by the circumstances dictated by political tactics.

SLA, Hizballah Leaders on Activity in South

NC3001183391 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1745 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The security situation in the South has again become unstable as action generates reaction amid a complete absence of authority. The security zone in the South was attacked by three Katyusha missiles today. The Israeli forces responded by shelling the area north of the zone. Thirty Katyusha missiles have been fired at the security zone so far, with Israel retaliating with air, sea, and ground raids on the al-Rashidiyah camp and Iqlim al-Tuffah. Three people were killed and six wounded in the Israeli retaliation.

Major General Antoine Lahd, South Lebanese Army [SLA] commander, has threatened to respond swiftly to the attacks, which he said have been unprecedented since 1985. He added that his forces will not tolerate a recurrence of the attacks. Meanwhile, Hizballah Secretary General Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli has criticized the Army's method of entering the south. He demanded that the Army deploy in the region to fight and to liberate its territory.

Palestinian Sources Comment

NC3101125791 Paris AFP in English 1232 GMT 31 Jan 91

[By Barry Parker]

[Text] Jerusalem, Jan 31 (AFP)—Israel unleashed heavy artillery on south Lebanon after more rockets were fired Thursday at northern Galilee and pro-Israeli militiamen shot dead three armed Palestinians, Israeli military sources said.

Thousands of civilians were fleeing the Israeli barrage and heading north, Voice of Israel radio reported, quoting sources in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

It was the third time in 48 hours that Katyusha rockets fell just short of the border and exploded in the Israeli-declared "security zone" in south Lebanon, held by Israeli troops and allied South Lebanon Army (SLA) militiamen.

No damage or injuries were reported from the Katyushas but the Israeli army hit back almost immediately. "The army riposted with artillery on positions held by terrorist organisations in south Lebanon," a military source said.

In the southern Lebanon port city of Sidon, a Palestinian military spokesman said 80 rockets had been fired at dawn on the northern Israeli settlements of Metulla and Nahariya as well as military positions.

The Israeli military said only 10 rockets had landed in the security zone, after earlier speaking of dozens.

Two SLA militiamen were slightly injured in a shoot-out with Palestinian commandos four kilometres (2.5 miles) north of Zari't, close to the border, Israeli army sources said.

The sources added that the three guerrillas were trying to infiltrate northern Israel and were carrying Kalashnikov assault rifles. Explosives were also found, they said.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a component of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said it was responsible for the raid and said the fighters were intercepted by an Israeli patrol.

Palestinian sources in south Lebanon said at least four people were injured in a two-hour Israeli artillery barrage on the Palestinian refugee camp of al-Rashidiyah, near the port city of Tyre.

The barrage could be heard throughout the Upper Galilee area, local residents said.

The latest rocket attack toward Israel was the third time since dawn Tuesday after threats from PLO officials in Lebanon to open a front in northern Israel to assist Iraq in the Gulf war.

The PLO headquarters in Tunis has distanced itself from the rocket attacks, which according to Israeli officials have caused no casualties.

Israel has issued a stern warning that it would not allow a new front and on Tuesday night hit back shelling al-Rashidiyah, killing three Palestinians and injuring nine.

After a second wave of rockets landed in the security zone early Wednesday, the Israelis pounded three towns just north of its border.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), another PLO group, has claimed responsibility for the rocket attacks Tuesday and Wednesday.

Lebanese security services said the Israeli army was Thursday also pounding Palestinian bases in the Iqlim al-Tuffah region of south Lebanon, but no casualties were reported.

The commander for northern Israel, General Yosi Peled, met with the SLA chief General Antoine Lahd, Israeli radio said. Gen. Peled was quoted as saying, "We have to stop the Katyusha fired by the PLO at the security zone."

Israeli Army Shells Villages

NC3101204491 Paris AFP in English 2027 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, Jan 31 (AFP)—The Israeli army on Thursday shelled villages in south Lebanon where PLO fighters and Lebanese Shiite miltiamen are deployed, security sources reported.

Artillery units located in the Jazzin region, an extension of an Israeli-imposed "security zone" in south Lebanon, opened fire at mid-evening on four communities in the Iqlim al-Tuffah, they said.

Casualty reports were not available.

There has been increased military activity in southern Lebanon lately, with dozens of Katyusha rockets falling early Thursday on Israeli positions in the area for the third time since Tuesday.

The attacks have raised fears that pro-Iraqi forces within the Palestine Liberation Organization could be preparing to open a second Gulf war front against Israel.

Israel on Tuesday shelled the al-Rashidiyah Palestinian refugee camp near the southern Lebanese port city of Tyre.

After a second wave of rocket attacks early Wednesday Israeli artillery pounded three towns just north of the security zone.

Syrians Reportedly Arrest Pro-Iraqi Lebanese

JN3101132591 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 28 Jan 91 p 8

[AL-JUMHURIYAH correspondent's dispatch from Paris]

[Text] A statement issued by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command in Lebanon has stressed that the Syrian regime's authorities have arrested more than 150 Lebanese citizens for allegedly participating in a demonstration in northern Lebanon recently, in which demonstrators denounced the Syrian regime's stand in collusion with the imperialist-Zionist forces' direct aggression against the Arab people in steadfast Iraq.

The statement stressed that the demonstrators hailed President Saddam Husayn and called on the Arabs to adopt an honorable stand toward and support lofty Iraq. The statement added that the large combing operations being carried out by al-Asad's troops still threaten the lives and safety of the Lebanese in their own homeland, on the pretext of sympathizing with steadfast Iraq.

Worth mentioning is that the Syrian regime's prisons are full of Lebanese strugglers and Ba'thists who have refused to be slaves and followers of Hafiz al-Asad, the agent of America and Israel. The arrest campaign was stepped up after 2 August, when the Lebanese b gan to express solidarity with Iraq against the positions of America and Fahd's treasonous and aggressive stands toward Iraq.

AL-THAWRAH Notes Israeli Benefits From Crisis

NC3101165291 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 31 Jan 91

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "This Aid Hinders Peace," AL-THAWRAH says that the Gulf crisis has been full of political and military surprises. It adds that perhaps the strangest surprise is the Western sympathy for Israel. AL-THAWRAH says: When the first Iraqi missile was fired at it, something for which it had been waiting, Israel embarked on a campaign of blackmail against the West on the pretext that it was in danger. Western countries hastened to offer assistance, beginning with antiballistic missile batteries and ending with hundreds of millions of dollars. AL-THAWRAH notes that all this has proved that the only party which has benefited from this crisis is Israel and the party which stands to lose most is the Arab nation.

TISHRIN Views Iraq's Territorial Integrity

NC3101170591 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 31 Jan 91

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial entitled "Safeguarding the Iraqi People Is a Pan-Arab Duty," TISHRIN says that concern for safeguarding Iraq, its people, and its resources is a pan-Arab duty demanded by the supreme Arab interests. The paper stresses that this concern cannot be split or bargained away because it proceeds from the concern to safeguard all Arab resources and the need to preserve the Arab existence and future.

TISHRIN adds: Because of this concern to safeguard Iraq and its people, Syria has taken every occasion to reiterate that it is not possible to tamper with Iraq's territorial integrity. This is a sacred issue to Syria, which has asserted that it rejects any change in the map of the Gulf.

The paper asserts that Syria, proceeding from the same motive, wants to see Kuwait liberated and its legitimate government restored, and is greatly pained by the massive damage done to Iraq and other Gulf countries. It says that this damage could have been avoided if the Iraqi Government had responded to the calls to withdraw from Kuwait before the war erupted.

The paper adds that despite this, the hand of salvation is still extended to spare Iraq and its people further catastrophes and destruction because it is not reasonable to link a nation's fate to one obstinate individual who defies the whole world with rejection and intransigence. It says that Saddam Husayn has gambled with the Iraqi people, with the result that they been subjected to calamities and have been burned by Saddam's policy. The paper notes that the Iraqi people are continuing to pay for this with their capabilities, existence, and future.

TISHRIN says that the wait will not be long, as the Iraqi people know well the path to their salvation and know also that the night must end and that the morning of deliverance from the policy and practices of Saddam's practices must come inevitably because the Iraqi people are capable of exercising their will, defending their existence, and rescuing their country from destruction and death by getting rid of Saddam Husayn and resisting his destructive policy.

Bangladesh

Ershad Claims Assassination Plotted

BK0102091191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0750 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 1 (AFP)—Bangladesh's ousted President Hussain Mohammad Ershad said an unidentified political group has been plotting to kill him and appealed to the government to protect him.

"This group earlier plotted to kill me where I have been lodged," the former leader wrote to his successor, acting President Shahabuddin Ahmed, in an appeal not to transfer him to Dhaka's high-security jail.

"I came to know that the killer group plotted afresh to eliminate me (and) I understand that the killer group will kill me in Dhaka central jail if I am transferred there," Mr. Ershad said in the letter carried by newspapers here Friday. He has been in custody at his luxury villa in the Gulshan diplomatic enclave since he was forced to step down last year.

Mr. Ershad alleged that the group plotting to kill him was concerned that he would take back power in the parliamentary polls scheduled for February 27. He did not identify the group.

"It was the responsibility of the government to ensure my security in detention," he wrote. "I appeal (to) you not to transfer me to the jail for the security of my life."

Mr. Ershad's fear was voiced as authorities, under pressure from political and student groups, prepared to put him on trial.

"We have heard of the conspiracy but I do not have details," said Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, a former prime minister and acting chairman of Mr. Ershad's Jatiya Party.

Mr. Ershad's lawyer, Kazi Shahadat Hossain, said the former president had not received a reply to his letter.

"I see no legal provision to stop his transfer as it is absolutely for the administration to decide," he said.

However, Mr. Chowdhury said he was looking into taking some "constitutional steps" to stop the transfer but would not give details.

Mr. Ershad, 60, Bangladesh's longest serving head of state, stepped down December 6 when confronted with mass demonstrations against his eight-year-old regime. He was put under house arrest December 12 along with his wife, Raushan, for 120 days under the 1974 Special Powers Act. He has been charged with three cases of corruption, abuse of power and illegal possesion of weapons.

Political and student groups have been demanding that he be moved to the jail, calling him a criminal who should not command special treatment.

Mr. Ershad said in the letter that the plot against him became clear from persistent demands to transfer him to jail. Jail sources said preparations for accommodating Mr. Ershad were complete and that he may be moved at any time. Arrangements for his wife had also been made, the sources said. A government spokesman had no comment.

Authorities this week started investigations against Mrs. Ershad for alleged abuses of power.

Sources said procedural matters for Mr. Ershad's trial in the weapons case could start this month and that the chief metropolitan magistrate would begin examining documents Saturday. Because he is detained under the Special Powers Act he will be tried by a special tribunal, they said.

"There is no case against my client and it is all under pressure to victimise and humiliate him at home and abroad," Mr. Hossain said.

Mr. Ershad is contesting the elections from five constituencies in his home district of Rangpur, where residents said by telephone that he had "good chances" of winning at least one seat.

Meanwhile, seven former ministers in the Ershad government who are wanted by police were still in hiding after a government deadline for their surrender expired at midnight Thursday.

Police said Friday that if the ministers, including former Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed, are arrested they face one year in prison, a fine and seizure of their property.

Only four former ministers surrendered after the government announced the ultimatum last week. They were being held in Dhaka central jail.

President Lauds Military for Democratization Role

BK3101130691 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh External Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The acting president, Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, has lauded the role of the Armed Forces in the recent democratic process in the country. He was speaking at the graduation ceremony of the 15th Army, 9th Navy, and 11th Air Force staff course of Defense Services Command and Staff College in Dhaka on Thursday [31 January]. He said the nation is now on the road to democracy at unique moment in our history.

He distributed the certificates among the participants of the courses. Sixty student officers, including 19 overseas students from Bahrain, Brunei, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Zambia, took part in the graduation course.

Government Wants To Help End Gulf War

BK3101052491 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Bangladesh has expressed its willingness to join in all the efforts that can bring about an end to the Gulf War. A Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday that Dhaka welcomes the latest offer by the United States and the Soviet Union to Iraq for peace, which has given Baghdad yet another chance to avoid further catastrophes in the Gulf. The spokesman said the offer from two superpowers does contain indications of seriousness to find a solution to the war even several days after it began. Vacation of Kuwait by Iraq is a central issue to the whole problem in the Gulf, he added.

India

V.P. Singh Denies Granting U.S. Refueling Rights

BK3101125491 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The former prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, has denied that his government granted any refueling facility to the U.S. Air Force planes. In a statement in New Delhi today, he described the Congress-I allegation against his government as distortion of truth. He asked the Congress-I leadership either to act with responsibility in getting the policy to grant refueling facility changed or dissociate itself from the government.

Congress Demands End to Refueling

BK3101162091 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Congress-I has demanded an immediate suspension of overflight and refueling facilities to military aircraft of foreign countries who are belligerents in the West Asian war. The party's working committee in a resolution adopted in New Delhi today said that it expects the government to rectify past mistakes and remain faithful to the foreign policy evolved through national consensus over the past four decades. The CWC [Congress Working Committee] expressed concern at the continuance of the use of the air corridors and the provision of refueling facilities apparently without review, even after war erupted in West Asia. The resolution described this as a deviation and distortion that is shaking the very foundation of our foreign policy.

Iran's Envoy Critical

BK3101134191 Hong Kong AFP in English 1324 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 31 (AFP)—Iran's ambassador here Thursday criticised New Delhi's decision to permit U.S. Air Force transports flying between the gulf and the Philippines to refuel in India.

"Islamic countries have some other expectation from India," Ibrahim Rahimpour told the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI). "The Moslem people of India also have similar expectations."

"We think that India and other brotherly countries should try to control the war and not help in its expansion," he added in an interview.

The comments followed India's admission that since January 9 it had allowed some 50 C-141 Starlifter and C-130 Hercules planes with non-lethal equipment to take on fuel at the Indian airports of Bombay, Madras and Agra.

A U.S. diplomat was Thursday quoted as saying that the aircraft only carried spare parts, mail and military clothing.

Iraq has protested the granting of refuelling facilities, which has come under widespread criticism at home. But the government has not said whether it would halt the assistance.

India and Iraq have had close ties, but New Delhi has asked Baghdad to pull out of Kuwait.

Saudi Envoy Appreciates Efforts To End Gulf War

BK3101131691 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Saudi Arabia today appreciated the efforts made by India and its political leaders to end the Gulf war. Talking to PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA], in New Delhi, the Saudi ambassador to India, Mr. Shaykh Fu'ad S. Mufti, said the Saudi King Fahd in a recent message to Congress-I president, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, has explained his country's viewpoint on the Gulf situation.

About the prospect of success of the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] initiative, the ambassador said all initiatives are welcome as long as the basic objective is to liberate Kuwait.

Shekhar Visits Punjab, Repeats Talk Offer

BK2801164891 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] The prime minister has said the government's offer for talks should not be construed as its weakness on Punjab policy. Addressing a largely attended public meeting at Thuduke village in Faridkot District of Punjab this afternoon, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said the government is very clear that a solution can be found only through talks and by restoring confidence among the people. Assuring all those criticizing that there is no plan on Punjab, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said the government is fully conscious of its responsibilities. He said while doors are open to any one who comes forward for talks on Punjab, there will be no compromise on unity and integrity of the nation and the constitution will be always be upheld. The meeting was organized to mark

the 125th birth anniversary of Sher-i-Punjab [lion of Punjab], Lala Lajpat Rai. Paying rich tributes, the prime minister called upon the people to emulate the spirit of courage and compassion showed by Lala Lajpat Rai and other valiant partiots—Shahid Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru, and Chandra Shekhar Azad—who sacrificed their lives for the sake of the country. Others who addressed the public meeting included the Andhra Pradesh governor, Mr. Krishna Kant, who is also chairman of Lala Lajpat Rai Memorial Trust; the Punjab governor, General Malhotra; Mr. Indrajit Gupta, CPI [Communist Party of India]; Mr. I.K. Gujral, Janata Dal; Mr. Bal Ram Jakhar, Congress-I; Mr. Harkishen Singh Surjeet, CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist]; Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party]; and the minister of state for home, Mr. Subodh Kant. They said the people of Punjab should unitedly make efforts to solve the state's problems and put an end to violence. The prime minister presented a shawl to the 60-year-old grand daughter of Lala Lajpat Rai, Ms. Shanta Aggarwal.

Earlier, talking to newsmen, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said government will take every possible step to instill confidence among the people and to ensure that the writ of the government prevails. In reply to a question regarding talks with militants, Mr. Chandra Shekhar said it is not possible for the government to send any formal invitation to them as it is not known who to invite. He said the government has been appealing to them through the media to come forward for talks as violence leads nowhere and a peaceful solution can be found only through a dialogue. Mr. Chandra Shekhar and other leaders paid floral tributes at the birth memorial of Lala Lajpat Rai and stood in silence for a while. They also planted saplings. All India Radio special correspondent, Ratan Salve, who accompanied the prime minister said the people lined up on both sides of the road at the towns of Mullapur and Jagraon and several villages en route the 52-km-long journey from Jalwara Airport in Ludhiana District to Thuduke village. Our correspondent says the tremendous response to the first ever visit of Mr. Chandra Shekhar to the interior of Punjab generated goodwill and confidence among the people who came out in large numbers to greet him.

The BJP leader, Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, has said that most parties have a common approach on the Punjab issue and are pressing the government to find a solution to it. Talking to newsmen at Village Thuduke, he said the government should not be afraid of talking to anyone whosoever comes foward and if convinced that a solution to the Punjab problem can be found through negotiations.

'Terrorists' Kill 11 Persons in Punjab

BK2901035691 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] In Punjab, terrorists struck again killing 11 persons in Hoshiarpur District last night. According to an official spokesman, 15 to 20 truck-borne militants went to a bus stand at Bhikowal at about 2030 and after stopping a number of persons travelling by various modes of transport, opened fire killing 11 of them on the spot. The police on receipt of information chased the terrorists and engaged them in an encounter near Shamchawrasi. The truck driver and cleaner were arrested while others managed to a escape under the cover of darkness. A massive search is on to nab the culprits.

Elsewhere in the state, five militants have been killed in separate encounters.

'Safe Passage' Offered to Punjab Militants

BK3001164791 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The minister of state for home, Mr. Subodh Kant Sahay, today offered safe passage to any militant in Punjab who comes forward for talks. He said in New Delhi today that the prime minister, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, has already announced the government's desire to talk to anyone within the framework of the Constitution. He said intentions of the government are very clear. But at the same time, it wants the killings of all innocent people to end.

Earlier, talking to newsmen on board the special aircraft during his visit to Jammu, Mr. Subodh Kant said deployment of the Army in the border districts of Punjab is only to check border crossings and smuggling of arms. He described as a positive development the presence of the leaders of the Congress-I, Janata Dal, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], and left parties at the public meeting in Faridkot District addressed by the prime minister on Monday [28 January]

The minister said reports indicate that about 3,000 Kashmiri youth are receiving training in arms in the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. He said over 200 militants have surrendered to the security forces in the valley during the last one month and many of them have been sent to their families.

A report from Chandigarh says that the Akali Dal leader, Mr. S.S. Mann, has welcomed the government's offer of safe passage to the Punjab militants who come forward for talks. Mr. Mann described it as a positive development.

Government Resignations Demanded Over Tamil Nadu

BK3101130791 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The National Front and left parties have charged the government with serious breach of constitutional norms in dismissing the democratically elected DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] government in Tamil Nadu. Addressing a news conference in New Delhi this afternoon, leaders of these parties said it is unprecedented that a state government enjoying majority in the assembly has been removed in the midst of its budget session. Describing the action as a design to frustrate the

popular will, the leaders demanded resignation of the central government. They said they will now go to the people and observe a peaceful national protest day on the 6th of next month to expose the government's action.

The Akali Dal chief, Mr. Simranjit Singh Mann, has described the imposition of president's rule in Tamil Nadu as an unconstitutional act. In a statement in Chandigarh, Mr. Mann said the center could have provided assistance to Tamil Nadu in tackling the law and order situation.

Tamil Party Requests Crackdown on LTTE

BK2901131691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1239 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 29 (AFP)—A Sri Lankan Tamil political party Tuesday urged India to put pressure on the island's dominant Tamil guerrilla group to help end a bloody separatist campaign in their country.

The Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) said here that an effective crackdown on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu would deal crippling blows [to] the latter's fighting capacity.

"If the Tamil Nadu patronage is removed, you (will) knock off the very bottom of the LTTE," TELO spokesman S. Srikanth told reporters. "LTTE terrorists have their bases in Tamil Nadu. Their supply routes are there."

Sri Lankan officials have charged Indian authorities with turning a blind eye to the activities of the LTTE in Tamil Nadu, a province of about 55 million Tamils separated from Sri Lanka only by a narrow strip of sea.

The Tamil Nadu government has denied patronising the LTTE, which in June last year resumed its military campaign for an independent homeland across Sri Lanka's Tamil-majority northeast.

But Tamil Nadu authorities have in the past two months arrested more than 1,000 suspected Sri Lankan Tamil rebels, including those of the LTTE, following pressure from the federal government in New Delhi.

Mr. Srikanth, however, charged that most of those held in Tamil Nadu jails were members of non-LTTE Sri Lankan Tamil groups, and demanded their immediate release.

"It is indeed a tragedy that innocent (Sri Lankan) refugees including women and children are being detained, while armed LTTE terrorists are still freely roaming about," he said.

The TELO, once Sri Lanka's most powerful Tamil guerrilla group, was virtually decimated by the LTTE in April-May 1986 in internecine war. It is now registered as a political party in Colombo, and has two MP's.

India deployed thousands of troops in Sri Lanka's northeast in July 1987 to combat Tamil separatism under an agreement with Colombo. It pulled back its men last March after more than two years of bush war with the LTTE in which it lost almost 1,200 soldiers.

Congress-I Welcomes President Rule in Tamil Nadu

BK3101163191 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Congress-I has welcomed the government's decision for imposing president's rule in Tamil Nadu. Briefing newsmen in New Delhi today, the party spokesman, Mr. M.J. Akbar, said that the decision, though belated, has been taken in the national interest and not for any partisan interest. In another press release, the secretary of the Congress-I parliamentary party, Ms. Meera Ambarasu, has described the imposition of president's rule in the state as a step in the right direction to save Tamil Nadu from terrorism and secessionism.

Addressing the conference of the state unit of his party in Jammu today, the president of the Janata Dal, Mr. S.R. Bommai, described the imposition of president's rule in Tamil Nadu as a Congress-I-inspired move.

The Janata Dal-S spokesman and the minister for petroleum and natural gas, Mr. S.P. Malaviya, has denied the allegation that the Tamil Nadu government was dismissed at the instance of the Congress-I. Speaking to newsmen in Devasthali, he said the total breakdown of the constitutional machinery in the state had left the center with no option.

The Akali Dal chief, Mr. Simranjit Singh Mann, has described the imposition of president's rule in Tamil Nadu as an unconstitutional act. In a statement in Chandigarh, Mr. Mann said the center could have provided assistance to Tamil Nadu in tackling law and order situation.

Meanwhile, in Tamil Nadu, stray incidents of violence have been reported from Tiruchirappalli and Ootacamund districts today.

Ruling Party's Convention, Resolution Reported

BK3101164391 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Janata Dal-S has called for a concerted united action to desist [as heard] divisive forces in the country. In a political resolution at its first national convention at Devasthali in the Balia District of Uttar Pradesh today, the party said the nation is facing communal, regional, and caste conflicts. The political resolution was moved by the railway minister, Mr. Gyaneshwar Mishra. Our correspondent, covering the convention, reports from Devasthali that the entire day was devoted to the discussion on the resolution which will be adopted tomorrow.

Referring to the Ayodhya temple issue, the resolution said the Janata Dal-S is firmly committed not to allow any group or community to use force and disturb the status quo.

On Punjab, it said government will strive hard to restore peace and revive the popular rule as soon as possible.

Regarding Jammu and Kashmir problem, it said outside interference will not be tolerated on any account and the state will continue to be an integral part of the country.

Earlier, speaking in the convention, the Janata Dal-S president and deputy prime minister, Mr. Devi Lal, said a comprehensive agriculture policy is to be announced in the forthcoming budget session of parliament.

Iran

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Arrives in Tehran

LD3101151391 Tehran IRNA in English 1414 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA—Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Sa'dun Hammadi carrying a message from President Saddam Husayn for President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani arrived here via the Western border city of Bakhtaran, Thursday. Hammadi is leading a high-ranking delegation.

In remarks upon his arrival at Tehran airport, Hammadi said the aim of his visit was to submit President Husayn's message to President Rafsanjani dealing with some points relevant to mutual relations and the Persian Gulf war. "Important developments have occurred in the region over the past two weeks since the U.S. imposed a war on Iraq, so the Iraqi leadership deemed it necessary to brief the Iranian leadership on these developments," Hammadi said.

The Iraqi deputy premier vowed that the Iraqi people, despite suffering casualties and losses as a result of U.S. attacks, would never submit to such a "colonial domination." "It is necessary for Iraq's neighbouring Muslim people of Iran to know the Iraqi people's resistance against the U.S. and its allies," he said. The savage U.S. attacks on residential areas of Iraq showed how in practice the U.S. was trampling upon human and international laws to which it paid lip services, he said.

Hammadi added that American fighter planes bombed residential areas where there were no military facilities, overnight. In their criminal bombings, he said, the Americans did not even spare clinics, paper plants and factories producing powdered milk or even residential areas of such holy cities as An-Najaf. He vowed that the Iraqi people would resist the aggression to the last and would defeat the aggressors.

Hammadi and his entourage were greeted by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Meets Velayati

LD0102071491 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] The first round of talks between Mr. Sa'dun Hammadi, the Iraqi deputy prime minister and member of Iraq's Command Council, with Mr. Velayati, our country's foreign minister, was held in Tehran last night.

In those talks, first Mr. Sa'dun Hammadi presented a report on the war situation in Iraq and elaborated that country's position in confrontation against the multinational forces. He said the government and nation of Iraq will continue their resistance in that war. He then referred to the two countries' peaceful relations and reiterated the determination of the government and nation of Iraq to consolidate and deepen bilateral relations.

Then Mr. Velayati, expressing the Islamic Republic of Iran's regret over the bombardment of civilian areas of Iraq and the killing of that country's civilians, called the war a destructive war to which a peaceful solution should be sought. Mr. Velayati added: The Islamic Republic of Iran feels a responsibility toward the Muslim nation of Iraq, and therefore it will employ all its international endeavors to stop the war.

Our country's foreign minister said the realization of that aim is conditional upon Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and the retreat of the foreign forces from the region.

He also complained to Mr. Sa'dun Hammadi about Iraqi military aircraft entering Iranian airspace and territory without first acquiring the Islamic Republic of Iran's agreement.

Mr. Velayati also said: With regard to general international laws and on the basis of the Islamic Republic of Iran's neutral stance, the equipment [tajhizat] and the crews of each of the two conflicting sides that enter Iran will be kept until the war is over.

Our country's foreign minister also pointed to the extensive efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to encourage international organizations and interested countries to dispatch relief aid, including medicine and foodstuffs, to the Iraqi people on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 666, through the Islamic Republic of Iran's Red Crescent Society and under the supervision of the Red Cross.

Mr. Sa'dun Hammadi replied: The endeavors and the dispatch of aid by the Islamic Republic of Iran is praiseworthy, and the Iraqi nation appreciates those efforts.

Velayati Criticizes Iraq

LD3101221791 Tehran IRNA in English 2035 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in a meeting with the visiting Iraqi Vice-Premier Sa'dun Hammadi criticized Baghdad over the recent landing of Iraqi planes in Iran.

He told Hammadi Iran was unhappy that Iraq did not obtain Iran's agreement before its military aircraft entered Iran's airspace.

A number of Iraqi planes have made emergency landings in Iran since last Saturday.

Reiterating Iran's neutral stance in the Persian Gulf war and stressing Tehran's respect for the international regulations, Velayati told Hammadi that the planes and its crews will remain in Iran until the end of the war.

On the Islamic Republic's international peace efforts to end the war, Velayati said the success of these efforts depended on an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and the retreat of the alien forces from the region.

Foreign Minister Velayati also told the Iraqi official that Iran had launched extensive efforts to encourage international organizations as well as interested countries to send relief aids, including medicines and foodstuffs to the Iraqi people in accordance with the U.N. Security Council Resolution 666 under the supervision of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Hammadi thanked Velayati for Iran's aid and said "the people of Iraq appreciate your assistance." He also briefed Velayati on Iraq's military status in the war with the U.S.-led forces and stressed that the Iraqi people and government will continue to resist the Western troops.

Turning to the peaceful relations between Iran and Iraq, Hammadi said the Iraqi people and government were determined to further strengthen and consolidate these ties. Velayati expressed Iran's regret over the indiscriminate bombing of civilians by the allied forces and described the war as a war of destruction. He said a peaceful solution should be immediately sought to the hostilities, adding that Iran will work to this end because "we feel responsible towards the Muslim Iraqi people."

Hammadi arrived here this afternoon with a message for President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani from his Iraqi counterpart.

Meanwhile, Iran's permanent envoy to the United Nations Dr. Kamal Kharrazi told reporters Thursday that Hammadi was in Tehran to give some explanations on the recent violations of Iranian airspace by Iraqi planes and their emergency landings in Iran. He said that Tehran had protested to Baghdad over the incidents and asked for explanations.

During Hammadi's visit, according to Kharrazi, ways and means to find a peaceful solution to the current crisis in the Persian Gulf will also be explored.

Asked about interrogation of the Iraqi pilots now in Iran and if they included agents and supporters of a recent aborted coup d'etat in Iraq, Kharrazi said: "We have not been informed of the results of the interrogations yet." Of course, he added, the statements of the Iraqi pilots should be checked against other information Iran had obtained as well as against the explanations to be given by Hammadi before one could decide the incentives and reasons behind their actions. Pointing out that Hammadi's visit was the first direct contact between the Iraqi and Iranian officials since the outbreak of the war on Jan. 17, Kharrazi said it was a good opportunity for Tehran to be informed about the Baghdad government's views and to discuss ways to end the war. Asked if Iran would return the Iraqi planes if Israel entered the war, Kharrazi said: "We are against the spread of the war and believe that Iraq should leave Kuwait."

Algerian Foreign Minister Arrives for Gulf Talks

LD0102035991 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Mr. Ahmed Ghozali, the Algerian foreign minister, arrived in Tehran at the head of a political and economic delegation this morning.

The Algerian foreign affairs minister, in an interview with our correspondent at Tehran's Mehrabat Airport, said: During my visit to Iran, I will discuss with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran the threatening situation in the Persian Gulf region and ways of ending the war.

Makes Statement

LD0102055891 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Mr. Ahmed Ghozali, the Algerian foreign minister, arrived in Tehran at the head of a political and economic delegation this morning. He was welcomed by Mr. Sheykholeslam, the deputy foreign minister in charge of Arabian and African affairs.

Upon his arrival, in an interview with our correspondent, the Algerian foreign minister stressed the point that the two friendly and brotherly countries of Iran and Algeria had condemned the ignition of the war against the Muslim nation of Iraq from the beginning. He said the aim of his visit to Iran is to meet and discuss with the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran issues concerning the Persian Gulf crisis and ways of ending the war.

Paying tribute on the 12th day of Bahman [1 February], the anniversary of the arrival in Iran of the great leader of the Islamic revolution, His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may he be admitted to God's paradise, Ghozali announced his happiness about the naming of that day as the day of solidarity with the Muslim and oppressed

nation of Iraq. He said: During Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's visit to Iran and his talks with officials from the Islamic Republic, the two sides decided to continue their talks in defense of the Islamic ummah. Today we are visiting Iran with a feeling of confidence that the countries are able to employ all their resources and capabilities to safeguard the interests of Muslims, and in particular those of the oppressed nation of Iraq.

French Envoy to Discuss Questioned Loan

LD3101182891 Tehran IRNA in English 1412 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA—A French delegation headed by French Foreign Ministry Secretary General Francois Scheer arrived in Tehran this afternoon.

Scheer who is here as the special envoy of the French President Francois Mitterrand told reporters at the airport that he wanted to learn about the views of the Iranian officials on the Persian Gulf war and and the developments of the region.

He also said he was determined to settle a longstanding financial dispute between Iran and France "once and for ever." The dispute relates to a one billion dollar loan granted to France by the former regime.

Scheer declined to answer questions on French policy and military involvement in the Persian Gulf war.

Envoy To France Comments

LD3101151691 Tehran IRNA in English 1412 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Paris, Jan. 31, IRNA—Iranian ambassador here Ali Ahani today categorically denied any link between a visit to Tehran of secretary general at France's Foreign Ministry Francois Scheer and the emergency landing of Iraqi fighters in Iran.

Scheer, who departed for Tehran Thursday morning as President Francois Mitterrand's envoy for talks on the Persian Gulf war and mutual relations, is expected to stay here until Saturday.

The Iranian embassy did not give details of Scheer's agenda in his visit to Tehran, but observers here believe that while in Tehran Scheer is also expected to raise the financial disputes existing between the two countries.

Scheer has already represented his government in talks held between the two countries aimed at removing their financial disputes over one billion dollars in loan granted to France by the former regime of Iran in 1974.

After lengthy talks, the Paris government finally paid Iran a total of $630 million and negotiations are underway on the rest of the loan and its overdue interests as well as the losses suffered by French companies whose contracts with Iran were nullified after the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution.

French autorities, particularly Scheer have time and again expressed willingness to settle their financial differences with the Islamic Republic.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry spokesman Daniel Bernard said Scheer was scheduled to hold talks with some Iranian authorities including Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

Asked by IRNA whether Scheer was carrying any message from French authorities to Iran, the spokesman said he did not know anything about the issue.

In response to a question as to whether Scheer might raise such specific topics as the landing of Iraqi fighters in Iran in his talks with Iranian officials, Bernard replied "Scheer's talks will not be restricted to any specific topic."

Yemeni Minister Arrives for Talks

LD3101221191 Tehran IRNA in English 2106 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA—Yemeni Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali arrived here Thursday night at the head of a delegation for talks with Iranian officials on the Persian Gulf war.

Al-Dali was greeted at the airport by First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati.

As the Yemeni delegation arrived here, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati was holding a round of talks with Iraqi Vice Premier Sa'dun Hammadi who arrived in Tehran hours earlier.

Ahmad Khomeyni Urges People To Support Khamene'i

LD0102115991 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Excerpts] In today's splendid ceremonies Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, during remarks before the Friday prayer sermons, expressed condolences on the anniversary of the death of the honorable holy Zaynab—God's peace be upon her—to all Muslims. He also thanked and expressed appreciation to the ever-present people on the scene, explaining that their presence in the ceremonies marking 12 Bahman [1 February] and the start of the blessed Ten Days of Dawn was a demonstration of their support for the Islamic Republic system and the values of Islam and the revolution. He then described how the exalted Imam Khomeyni—may his dust be sanctified—founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, migrated from Najaf to Paris and his return to the Islamic homeland. [passage omitted]

Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni recounted the existing problems and obstacles standing in the path of the victory of the Islamic Revolution, described the various ways in which global arrogance embarked on its hostility toward the Islamic

Revolution and the various plots it has hatched to confront the revolution, and he talked about the operations of the counterrevolutionary minigroups to deliver blows to the revolution and the Islamic Republic system. He added: All of these agreed with each other over one thing and that was that the Islam of the Guardianship of the Jurisconsults and the Islam of the imam and the Islam of you, the people, to whom the revolution belongs, should not become sovereign over the country. But the honorable imam, assisted by you, the people, struggled and resisted against all obstacles and difficulties and brought the Islamic Revolution to its victory. And you, the people, by being ever present on the scenes of the revolution were able to assist the imam and to safeguard the revolution.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni said that difficulties and obstacles also exist today, and he added: Today when there are all these difficulties, we should stand more united, more decisively, and firmly than ever behind the leader. And just as we did not allow the honorable imam to feel that he was alone so we should not allow the eminent leader of the Islamic Revolution to feel that he is alone.

He continued by noting the support of the Muslim nation of Iran for the leader, the government, the Islamic Majles, and the judicial branch. He pointed to the presence of U.S. troops and those of its allies in the Persian Gulf, and said: The true aim of the United States in this military expedition is against the Islamic Revolution of you, the people, and if we always follow the leader and support the system and its officials, you can be certain that we shall be victorious over the United States in all fields.

In conclusion, he thanked the eminent leader Khamene'i for naming 12 Bahman as the day of solidarity with the Muslim and oppressed people of Iraq.

Majles Speaker Outlines Budget

LD3102221991 Tehran IRNA in English 1836 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA—The budget bill approved by the Majles Thursday for next calendar year (March 1991-March 1992) is based on reconstruction, removal of deprivation, creation of jobs, promotion of education and training of manpower.

Citing the above as some of the features of the 1370 budget, Majles Speaker Mahdi Karrubi said "It is the first year that the budget bill has been passed 50 days before the end of the year."

The general budget for the next calendar year has increased by Rls [Rials] 300 bn [billion] to Rls 900 bn as compared with that of the current calendar year, he told reporters.

The budget deficit stands at Rls 970 bn while the figure already predicted in the government's 5-year development plan is Rls 1,211 bn.

The budgets allocated for the education, higher education, agriculture and water resources sectors have increased by 34, 40, 49 and 30 percent respectively compared with this year's figures.

The budget earmarked for salaries of civil servants has risen by Rls 500 bn and further facilities are to be provided for them once a new payment system is passed.

The shahid (martyr) foundation is to receive Rls 170 bn and that is Rls five bn more than its current annual budget. This means a 30 to 35 percent increase in the salaries paid by the foundation to the wives and children of martyrs.

The budget allocated for the Imam Khomeyni Relief Committee has tripled to Rls three bn.

For deprived regions, besides the budget allocated from national credits, an additional Rls 155 bn has been put aside.

To reconstruct war-stricken areas, Rls 270 bn plus dlrs 200 million in hard currency have been put aside.

Of the Rls 120 bn allocated for natural disasters, Rls 90 bn will be spent for reconstruction of quake-devastated areas in Gilan and Zanjan provinces.

The 1370 foreign exchange budget stands at $20 bn of which $6.8 bn will be spent on rebuilding war-damaged oil refineries, constructing new ones and producing oil products, $1.5 bn on road building, $2.27 bn on generation of energy and $1.44 on agriculture.

The foreign exchange budget excludes a $3.15 bn Iran expects to earn from non-oil exports next year.

The 1370 budget has earmarked $20 million in aid for the Palestinian people.

A large share of the budget will go to such infrastructural projects as the Mubarakeh steel mill, Bafq-Bandar Abbas rail tracks and so on.

Red Crescent Sending Food, Medicine to Iraq

LD0102050991 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Regarding the particularly worrying situation of the Iraqi people, the Islamic Republic of Iran's Red Crescent Society has announced its readiness to dispatch food and medicine within the framework of international rules and regulations.

According to the report of the Central News Unit, Mr. Dastjerdi, the managing director of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Red Crescent Society, announcing the news, added: The Islamic Republic of Iran's Red Crescent Society, with the permission of the Security Council and

within the framework of the international rules and regulations, as well as getting permission from and coordination with the Red Cross Committee, has envisaged around 150 tonnes of medicines and foodstuffs from the first consignment.

Regarding ways in which people can make their donations, he said: In case there is a need, we will make a request from the people of our country in that regard.

Paper Views Interrogation of Iraqi Pilots

PM3101165691 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 31 Jan 91 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Interrogation of Iraqi Pilots in Iran Reveals Serious Secrets"]

[Text] Tehran, SAWT AL-KUWAYT—Iranian sources have revealed important and serious information about the losses inflicted on the Saddam war machine since the battles to liberate Kuwait started. This information is based on statements by Iraqi pilots detained in Iran, who are currently being interrogated at the headquarters of the Iranian Army's Second Branch (military intelligence).

According to this information, eight Iraqi air bases were completely destroyed in the first 2 days of the war. And 20 military industrial complexes (each comprising three or five factories) were reduced to rubble in the international forces' air and missile raids.

The Iranian sources added that the poison gas complex at Salman Pak, the fertilizer factory that used to produce germs, and the Salah-al-Din Complex for manufacturing (missiles carrying chemical warheads) in the same region, all suffered devastating strikes on the fifth and sixth days of the war.

The Iranian sources confirmed the destruction of the tank maintenance center northwest of Basra and of the gun maintenance and production factory on the Baghdad-al-Najaf road. This is in addition to the destruction of the buildings of the Iraqi Army General Command, Military Intelligence Department, Political Guidance Department, and the Air Force Command in Baghdad, as well as the radio and television broadcasting center northwest of the capital and the radio and television center in Basra.

The Iranian sources cited major losses among the Republican Guard forces stationed in northern Kuwait and the destruction of ammunition dumps and war equipment in Zubayr and Basra.

Meanwhile, SAWT AL-KUWAYT has learned from Iranian Navy sources that closely watched the attacks on the Iraqi naval forces that "Iraq has so far lost 80 percent of its naval fleet, which it tried to modernize after the war with Iran by purchasing torpedo boats, corvettes, hovercraft, rocket ships and boats, and modern landing vessels from China, Poland, the Soviet Union, France, and Italy.

In the engagements that have occurred in recent days between the international forces' naval and air units and Iraqi boats and ships, Iraq has lost about 26 of its boats and ships. This is in addition to 14 speed boats that Iraq used for espionage, observation, and commando landings.

Daily Urges Balance in Gulf War Views

NC3101202991 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 21 Jan 91 p 2

[Unattributed commentary: "Let Us Keep a Balance"]

[Text] Since the onset of the Persian Gulf crisis, experts have expressed different views on the Islamic Republic's position.

The nature of the fomenters of the crisis—that is, their indubitable hostility toward the Islamic Revolution in the region—has given rise to special conditions in which the expression of views on the two sides of the conflict are sometimes clearly contradictory.

There has never been any doubt about the fact that America is hostile toward the Islamic Revolution and this is why, fortunately, no political observer has expressed a view in favor of America's unprincipled intervention in the regional crisis. This is a source of great happiness. Nothing else but this was expected. But as far as the other side of the crisis is concerned, some views have sometimes been expressed which show a lack of balance and an unprincipled approach. And this is the point that has given rise to the cacophony in views. There are a few extremely important points that should be made here.

The first is that Iraq shoulders the most responsibility as the first one to strike the off-key note that started the regional crisis.

Second, Iraq's not very distant past shows that it does not respect pacts. Current facts are not such that can convince the Islamic Republic's officials that Iraqi rule is faithful to what it says.

Even though we are convinced that Iraq is the genuine enemy of America and Zionism and that it is fighting for Islamic teachings and the liberation of Muslims and we will have to support it, nevertheless the truth is that Iraq is paying for its aggression against Kuwait. The Iraqi nation, unless otherwise proven, is moving in the same direction as the Iraqi rulers are; therefore, the neutrality of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this destructive war is the most logical stand that could have been adopted.

Those who believe in supporting Iraq should have no doubts that they have definitely not kept the balance. Saddam has resorted to an attack on Israel for public consumption. This is not a confrontation with Israel.

The day when the banner of confrontation with Israel was unfurled by the mighty hands of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul rest in peace, Saddam not only did not support but stood as a dam in front of this movement. Now Iraq's attack on Israel is merely an attempt to feign participation in this movement.

If we look more closely at realities, we will maintain the balance. This is one of the musts of thinking and acting in a revolutionary manner.

Daily Warns Against Saddam's Islamic Pretensions

NC3101203191 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 21 Jan 91 p 12

[A. Kashani commentary: "Is Saddam Khalid Bin al-Walid?"]

[Text] Saddam's recent attacks on Israel and the Islamic slogans that he is propounding have made some people wonder whether Saddam has returned to Islam and is repeating the memory of Hurr Ibn-Yazid Riyahi and of Khalid Bin al-Walid. These acts by Saddam have led some to believe that he is an Islamic leader and that a fight against the enemies of Islam can be conducted under his command.

This misgiving, which will not last long, of course, calls for a glance at the stories of Hurr Ibn-Yazid Riyahi and Khalid Bin al-Walid.

When Hurr Ibn-Yazid Riyahi repented, he shamefully went to the leader of the Muslims and the Prophet 'Ali, peace be upon him, and humbly asked to be pardoned. He then placed himself under the command of his leader and started to defend the ideals of Islam. It should be mentioned that Hurr Ibn-Yazid Riyahi did not have a record of killing Muslims. Even though he is believed to have created some difficulties for the caravan of Imam Husayn, peace be upon him, in the Karbala incident, nevertheless his return to the leader of Islam and to Islam sanctified him.

Khalid Bin al-Walid too was on the side of blasphemy until he turned to Islam after which he placed himself under the command of the Prophet and obeyed the Prophet's orders until his death.

Therefore some conditions are necessary to return to Islam and to become a soldier of Islam, the most important of which is to obey the orders of the leader of the Muslims. It is because of this that Saddam cannot be equated with Hurr or with Khalid Bin al-Walid.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the world's Muslims, has repeatedly stated that Iraq should withdraw from Kuwait so that the grounds for this great battle which is going on will cease to exist. If Saddam is a soldier of Islam, he should obey this order and not continue the occupation of Kuwait and impose this destructive tragedy on the world of Islam in order to maintain his aggressive nature. Today the primary responsibility for the blood of each Muslim shed in Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and other places rests on Saddam's shoulders because he was the one who paved the way for this military expedition to the land of revelation. Also, if today Iraq claims that the holy shrines in that country are being attacked, it is Saddam who should be placed in the front row of the culprits even if the multinational forces may suffer heavily should these reports be proven correct.

Therefore Saddam is neither Hurr Ibn-Yazid Riyahi nor Khalid Bin al-Walid. Saddam is Saddam. Anyway, with his black record, Saddam is actually praying before having performed his ablutions. Can such a person, no matter how beautifully he reads the prayers, be imitated? The answer is definitely no.

In our era we had another example like Saddam: al-Sadat. He too led the strongest attack against Israel one day. But he emerged from the cinders as the friend of Israel, and warmly shook the hand of Zionism.

We should all maintain our alertness under the current conditions. This juncture of the Revolution's eventful phase calls for logical approaches. It is not a time for sentimentality. We should continue to preserve our divine rage against world arrogance and especially criminal America and bloodthirsty Zionism so that at the right time and under the orders of the leader of Islam—and not on Saddam's front—we can rub the noses of the enemies of Islam into the dirt.

Tehran Daily on Prospects of Iraqi Pullout

NC0102071491 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 23 Jan 91 p 2

[Editorial: "Futility of War"]

[Excerpts] The invasion and the subsequent occupation of Kuwait by Iraq has generally been condemned by Iraq's friends and foes alike. Invariably there have been calls for its withdrawal from the country. Therefore, if Iraq goes into a war against the United States and its European allies for the sake of keeping its hold on Kuwait, it is wasting time and fighting for a lost cause.

History alone cannot always help impose solutions on conflicts, although it can certainly be a useful medium. If Iraq invaded Kuwait purely and solely for the fact that it was once under the Ottoman empire and belonged to the greater Iraq, it is wrong and its aggression is unjustified. History alone cannot justify Iraqi ownership of Kuwait because over the decades many things have changed including the old map of Iraq. [passage omitted]

We are in the sixth day of a most destructive war. If anything at all has been proven so far is the fact that this war is not going to bring an easy and spectacular win for the United States and its allies, and help them boast of

the power of their war machines. If we are to tally up an outcome, and decide on a winner, it is Iraq and the person of Saddam Husayn.

Iraq is the winner because it has stood courageously, and it has not succumbed to the American gunboat or the carrot and stick diplomacy. Baghdad said it would stay in Kuwait and it did—although it will have to eventually withdraw. It said it would subject the Israeli territory to Iraqi missiles, it did. The last act was not, and is still no small feat. Several Iraqi missiles have slammed Tel Aviv and other Israeli cities, despite that country's notoriety for quick and vengeful retaliation.

Baghdad's last accomplished deed—that of hitting Israel with rockets—goes much beyond simply dropping a few hundreds of pounds of explosives into a few Israeli cities. The symbolism of the act goes much further than that. Iraq proved to the world and the Arab masses that Israel is not invincible, whom nobody should confront. This is despite and with full knowledge of the fact that Israel has been under pressure from the United States and its European allies not to retaliate for fear of cracking the anti-Saddam Arab-Western coalition.

Having seen the Israeli cruelty to Palestinians, the Israelis might have needed a dose of the same senselessness and cruelty to awaken them to some facts. What Saddam has done to the Israeli people does not call for a prize, but the blood of the innocent people might force the Israelis to come to their senses with respect to full Palestinian rights.[passage omitted]

Having shown that it is strong and determined, and courageous enough to face the United States, Iraq should make a mediated settlement of the war possible. Otherwise, this generation and many others to come will have to suffer the countless consequences of the war. The Iraqi government will have to bear in mind that it is no Japan or Germany with self-reliant and flexible industries, and that the continuation of the war will only serve to intensify its dependence on foreign sources.

The losses to the United States and its European allies are great too. But, if anything, they are getting a chance to test their war machines at the expense of the Middle Easterners who must have other uses for their resources than just sitting and having someone else burn them up.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has condemned the innumerable unheroic raids over Iraq and the destruction of their human and material resources. That is why it is working to bring the war to a halt until a solution can be found.

Everything considered, it seems, Saddam will have to take himself up on what he has been quoted to have said to Soviet Arab expert Yevgeniy Primakov, namely: I am a realist. I know, I will have to eventually leave Kuwait.

TEHRAN TIMES Views 'Firm Neutrality'

NC0102015891 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 27 Jan 91 p 2

[Editorial: "Neutrality Firm Despite Attempts To Draq Iran In"]

[Text] The Supreme National Security Council yesterday decided that all planes belonging to the warring parties in the Persian Gulf will be confiscated, and will only be released at the end of the war.

The decision of the supreme body of the Islamic Republic of Iran is exactly in the line of the announced policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran that Tehran wants to remain neutral in this conflict.

The decision was taken following an unexpected development which occurred yesterday, when some Iraqi aircraft violated Iranian air space and landed in a yet undisclosed airport in Iran with an accident in which one aircraft was on fire when landing, and the two others were slightly damaged.

Since the time the crisis started on August 2, following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, certain countries have been trying to involve Iran in this conflict. These countries have wanted to see Iran take sides, this or that, in the conflict. But as Iran considers this conflict, which has now turned into a fullfledged war, has no sound basis. [sentence as published] Iran considers this war one between wrong and wrong.

The Iranian officials and leaders of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i and President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani have discouraged all moves on such lines, both from within and outside the country, open or covert, which were aimed to involve Iran in this senseless war.

We cannot rule out the possibility that yesterday's violation of the Iranian airspace by the Iraqi planes is another unsuccessful attempt to pull the Islamic Republic of Iran into the conflict.

The authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran should be hailed for their prompt announcement of the incident and for the general information of the people in Iran and for the world as a whole.

The decision of the Supreme National Security Council is also praiseworthy and such a move by the top body of the country is another proof of Iran's sincere stand on the conflict.

Such a move will definitely disappoint those who have been vainly thinking that Iran could be dragged into the conflict.

This is also a warning to other parties in the war that Iran is not the right place for their military planes to seek refuge in or for any other purpose, directly or indirectly involved in the war of the Persian Gulf. [sentence as published]

Editorial Views Turkey's Involvement in Gulf

NC0102021691 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 27 Jan 91 p 2

[Editorial: "Turkey: Pawn of War"]

[Text] The Persian Gulf crisis and the war now being waged between the U.S.-led forces and the Iraqi government thrust Turkey into a frontline role, lifting official gloom in Ankara about the country's future in the NATO and Europe. This element has been assumed to be the main reason why Mr Turgut Ozal was so eager and willing to shut down Iraq's twin oil pipelines across Turkey to the Mediterranean just a few days after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. This crisis also severely tested Turkey's allegiance to the West and a traditionally cautious approach towards its neighbor, Iraq.

The first reciprocal effort by the United States vis-a-vis Turkey's "magnanimity" was an economic windfall showered on it by the Western allies. The losses incurred by the trade ban on Iraq was offset by Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates' assurance to cover the cost of Turkey's energy needs for the rest of the year. Also, a month after the invasion, the European Economic Community gave $2 billion in economic aid to Turkey, Jordan, and Egypt.

The EC, in making the announcement for the aid, said the massive amount "releases the United States of an effort in this area. With this aid we assume that these countries will strictly honor the embargo against Iraq."

Turkey was the first country that the U.S. Secretary of State visited for official talks after the Kuwaiti crisis, cementing widespread speculation that Baker had extracted Ozal's promise to allow the use of Turkish military bases in the event of a war. Incirlik, the main base for an estimated 5,000 American troops in Turkey, lies some 500 kms, (300 miles) from Iraqi territory. On Monday 21 January, the Turkish premier Yildirim Akbulut finally confirmed what the Pentagon and the Western media have already reported—that the U.S. planes were running heavy bombing missions against Iraq from the NATO base at Incirlik.

Ozal's resolve to involve his country in the Persian Gulf crisis was evident even prior to the start of hostilities on January 16, 1991. In a speech he made early in September 1990, the Turkish President said it was impossible to restore peace without being prepared for sacrifices. "We have courage. We are not afraid of anything", he said in the Mediterranean city of Antalya. Despite denials that the Turkish government will not open a new front against Iraq, military movements in the country indicate otherwise. Turkey has beefed up its airforce in the South, shifting aircraft from other parts of the country. NATO forces have also deployed several planes, Patriot ground-to-air missiles and 42 new fighter jets aside from the troops already stationed at the NATO base.

Turkey's earnest stance on the Persian Gulf crisis stems from several reasons:

1. Wanting to prove that it is part of Western Europe, Turkey has always acted as if it is distinct from the Middle East. For almost a decade, Ankara has tried to become an EC member. This intention however has been jeopardized by its geographical location making it a part of the Mideast. Traditionally the seat of the Ottoman empire, the Western Europeans are also wary about the widespread Islamic resurgence, which best describes the events of the last decade in Turkey. With Turkey's open and all-out support for the U.S.-led forces now battling Iraq, there is no longer any feeling among top Turkish officials of being isolated from the hinterland. Already, the EC has expressed that it will be more accommodating than in the past, and Baker has assured Ozal that squabbles which marred Ankara's ties with some Western allies have been shelved.

2. The spectacular events which swept Eastern Europe from the Baltic to the Black Sea between September and December 1989 and which continue to send ripples through the area and beyond, have cast a dark shadow over Turkey's strategic importance. The receding tide of Communism in the Soviet Union and the advent of democratic regimes present a new politicial climate which has reduced Turkish geopolitical usefulness in the Western military alliance.

3. Turkey has long held the idea that some parts of Iraq traditionally belong to her. It has also desired the Kirkuk oilfield located in southern Iraq. What Ozal does not realize is the fact that the West will never accept the idea of Turkey taking hold of an oil resource. The reality is, that despite all the rhetoric about peace, the United States and her allies are at war with Iraq because Saddam dared to cut the flow of cheap Kuwaiti oil to the West. Turkey and Iraq have been feuding over water from the Tigris and the Euphrates rivers and the war could settle the row in favor of the former. Likewise, taking part in the Persian Gulf war could enhance Turkey's prestige with the West and give it more influence in the Middle East.

The Turks' nervousness about the war has been evident. Many share the fear that Turkey is in danger of being used by Western powers anxious to protect their oil supplies in the Persian Gulf. Turgut Ozal's war policy has also antagonized members of the bureaucracy and the powerful military which led to the resignation of his foreign minister, defense minister, and the Army chief of staff. Besides, the West has not proved to be a reliable ally in the past, especially in Turkey's dispute with Greece. Also, Turkey will have to live with Iraq long after the foreign troops leave the area.

In a recent forum on the Persian Gulf crisis, Turkey's famed novelist, Yarshar Kemal intoned an old song familiar among the Turks lamenting Turkey's bloody rout in its Arab territories in World War I. That disaster marked the bitter end of the 500-year old Ottoman

empire: "Don't go to Yemen, you will be dust and soil", the song goes. It is not too late to prevent a repeat of this tragedy. All that Ozal must do is to review the pages of history and to exercise more caution and common sense.

Va'ezi on U.S., European Interests in Gulf

LD3101194391 Tehran IRIB Television Network in Persian 1615 GMT 31 Jan 91

["Political Roundtable" with Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Va'ezi, Dr. Bavand and Dr. Mir-Fakhra'i, professors of political science at Tehran University, presented by unidentified moderator]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Moderator] Mr. Va'ezi, what were the stances of the European countries with regard to the United States before the war began? In other words, during the war in the region what plans should the European countries adopt in economic terms so that they may reap greater economic rewards once the war ends?

[Va'ezi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The viewpoints of the European countries with regard to the developments in the Persian Gulf region are not identical with those of the United States. [passage omitted] Every European country follows specific objectives, political as well as economic objectives. As a whole—of course, we can speak about each of the European countries individually—the Europeans are not inclined to allow the United States to have the last say in an important and strategic region like the Persian Gulf. This is due to world developments and the drive toward economics and technology. So the Europeans are not prepared to decline to play a role in the developments now taking place in the Persian Gulf. The question of economics, however,is of concern. Because of its underground resources, oil, this region is a rich market. Therefore Europe is interested in participating in the region's markets, its future, and the control of the energy reserves. For these two reasons Europe cannot dissociate itself from the war.

The real objectives, however, which they follow are not the same. Britain is not following the same objective as the United States, though apparently both countries so far have followed the same strategy during the crisis and war in the region. France is following a totally different objective from those two countries. Other countries such as Germany and Italy want to see the war end in peace, but we see that they are not active toward that end. Therefore, all these countries are thinking in terms of the future of the region. They want to have a share in the future of this war. All the Western coalition partners have adopted the liberation of Kuwait as an aspiration, but those countries that are more active politically and militarily will have a bigger share in the future. Countries such as France, whose investment in the war effort is not considerable and yet which wants a good share in the future, have started to engage in a political exercise to end the war. [passage omitted]

There are two points. One is the divergence of interests between Europe and the United States. If those who claim that such a divergence exists and want us to believe that it is something like the rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union before this period, then they are making a big mistake. I also do not believe that future relations between the United States and Europe are going to be as they were in the last few decades. The evidence is that U.S. influence in Europe is weakening. Europe is finding its own identity. The future looks like this: Europe is not going to be a follower of the United States. Europe is now regarded as a new pole in the world—not in the fashion of old times as a hostile pole but as an economic and political rival to the United States. They are to be rivals who principally believe in the same framework of thought, but when their interests are at stake they follow their own interests. [passage omitted]

No matter which one of various scenarios may happen to end the war, the situation then will be different from the previous situation. I do not believe that the present situation in our region bears any resemblance to the situation which existed during World War I or II. I believe that the future of this region can hardly enter into a new form of security shape without attention to Iran's share and view. Though Iran has declared its neutral status, it does not mean that it will remain indifferent while next door a government is being reshaped [hukumati raqam bekhoreh]. Neutrality is separate from being indifferent. Therefore, I believe that no matter in what way the war may end Iran must have a special role in the future of the region and the future of Iraq. [passage omitted]

Republic Allegedly To Buy North Korean Scuds

TA0102112091 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0645 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Tehran political circles are saying that the Islamic Republic has contacted North Korea about the purchase of Scud missiles. Experts say that it is very likely that the Islamic Republic is purchasing these missiles for Iraq. After receiving delivery of the missiles, it will transfer them to Iraq. On the other hand, it is being said that the Islamic Republic intends to sell mobile missile launchers to Iraq.

Allies Said To Down Iranian Fighter Plane

TA0102111791 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0645 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] An Islamic Republic fighter plane was shot down in the Persian Gulf by missiles that were fired by the multinational forces. The plane's pilot and copilot were killed.

* RESALAT Reports 27 Nov 90 Majles Session

91AS0307A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
28 Nov 90 p 5

[Excerpts] Legal and Majles Department—Yesterday's public Majles session convened in the morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

During this session, after comments by the deputies from Ardestan, Borujen and Bukan, the Majles went into its agenda. During this session the employment law of the national accounting council was passed.

Printed below are the remarks by the pre-agenda speakers and the measures enacted by the Majles.

Seyyed Yusef Tabataba'i-Nezhad, Ardestan Deputy

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session was Mr. Tabataba'i-Nezhad, from the Ardestan electoral district. He began his remarks by thanking the martyr-nurturing people of Ardestan for their extensive participation in the elections for the Assembly of Experts and for their unquestioning obedience to the commands of the exalted leader.

He said: The reason I only take a turn as pre-agenda speaker once a year is that I do not think it proper to discuss some subjects before the Majles, and a short ten-minute period is not sufficient to discuss some other subjects.

He added: The kind of government the Imam of the nation, and in reality Islam, has designed for Muslims, has various dimensions and needs much vigilance. However, I will say a few things to alleviate some misgivings. There are various kinds of governments in the world, despotic, constitutional, republics, democratic republics, aristocratic republics, republics of the masses, proletarian republics and others, and the Islamic government type is not the same as any of them, even a democracy, in the Western and Eastern sense. Democracy is government by the people over the people, and this word and this meaning do not fit Islamic government, because Islamic government is the government of God over the people. Therefore, early in the revolution when a number of people, and especially the National Front, proposed that this word be used to describe the kind of government, His Holiness the Imam (may God have mercy on him) accepted, and while he was insisting he said: "Islamic Republic, not one word more nor one word less," which we all remember, and we see the the intelligence and realism of that great man everywhere.

He added: The name of our government has two parts, republic, which denotes the role of the people, and Islamic, which denotes the role of Islam in this government. Therefore, no one can and no one should deny the role of the people, or, God forbid, the role of Islam in the government, and no one denies it. Is it possible that the people could be ignored in a government which is for the purpose of organizing the worldly and spiritual affairs of the people, whose prophet is from and for the people, whose clergymen and leader are from the people and for the people, and whose leader sees himself as a servant of the people? Definitely, to speak of such a thing, knowingly or not, will bring no result other than sowing discord.

Continuing, he added: The point worth discussing is, what is the role of the people in the Islamic government? Are the people charged by God only to establish Islamic government in the world, to fight world atheism and imperialism, to plant the banner of Islam throughout the world, to identify a worthy person knowledgeable on Islam and declare allegiance to him as leader, to make his leadership, which has been assigned to him by the saints of Islam, a reality, and then to elect sound people as his helpers and aides? Or is it expressed in the words of a brother who said in his pre-agenda speech, "let us say that all tasks, even leadership and government, have been given to the people by God, and it is these people who delegate leadership and the government to the leader?" If there were an opportunity, I would show the emptiness of the second view with a logical analysis, so they would know that the one who said this, in fairness, did not understand the meaning of vice-regency of the chief jurisconsult, in the broad meaning defined by His Holiness the Imam. I will therefore pass over that and speak only of the statement by His Holiness the Commander of the Faithful (peace be upon him), which explains the first view. 'Ali said concerning the reason for accepting government: "If the people had not been there, if they had not declared allegiance to me, if they had not given me the ultimatum and if God had not made the pact with the clergy and scholars that the hungry must not tolerate the oppression and the gluttony of the oppressor and that they must spread Islamic justice and fairness in the world, and if such a pact had not been placed upon the clergy by God, I would not have accepted this government."

Mr. Tabataba'i-Nezhad added: It is entirely evident that the government and the vice-regency have been assigned to the clergy by God and that the people are the ones who must stand beside, declare allegiance and give the ultimatum to the clergyman to establish this vice-regency and the commands of Islam. It is true that to actualize the vice-regency of the chief jurisconsult naturally needs the help of the people, their allegiance and cooperation.

Elsewhere in his talk, he noted: In his blessed lifetime, His Holiness the Imam guided everyone and if a mistake came from someone, the Imam reprimanded him. Sometimes by letter, sometimes in speeches, sometimes privately and sometimes publicly, he conferred favor on all officials and guided them. He scolded many groups and organizations, the Council of Guardians, the Majles, the Teacher's Society, the president of the republic at that time, the ministers, he gave guidance to everyone, and they are all proud to have been trained by that great imam. It is the pride of all our officials that they have been made and created by the guidance of that great man. However, is the Imam's reprimand a defect in a human being? If a great man and a leader reprimands a

man, does this make him defective, or is this constructive? Especially if a letter is sent to him privately, it is clear that he is being blessed by the Imam, who wants to correct his defect so he can serve better in society. Is it proper for the Imam's private letter to be published? In the words of Haj Ahmad Aqa, is this not a violation of religious law? In fairness, it is a violation of religious law. Whatever we may have expected, we particularly did not expect Mr. Khalkhali to publish the Imam's private letters. "O God, grant us an acceptable ending."

After Mr. Tabataba'i-Nezhad's remarks, Mr. Khalkhali responded using the regulatory procedures and said: The letter in question had been published previously and had already been given to all the deputies. This letter was never confidential. If the Imam had intended to give a private reminder, he would have summoned the gentlemen and spoken to them. Since he wrote it, however, it was clear that he wanted it to remain in this republic, and this is just what I said. What Mr. Tabataba'i-Nezhad said, quoting Haj Ahmad Aqa, that this was in violation of religious law, is not right. He met with me repeatedly and I never heard such a thing from him. The letter was not confidential and there was no one who had not seen it.

Davud Towhidi, Borujen and Lordegan deputy

The second pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session was Mr. Towhidi, from the Borujen and Lordegan electoral district. [passage omitted on the glorious role of the Basij]

Ahmad Taha, Bukan deputy

The final pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session was Mr. Taha, Bukan deputy. In his talk he discussed the discovery of an aluminum mine in the mountains of Bukan. He said: In the Bukan mountains there has been evidence of large and important bauxite mines, which rank ahead of the ones in Yazd, Kerman, Qazvin, Gorgan and other parts of Iran. According to these comments by technical experts on the national bauxite extraction project, the Bukan bauxite mines are unparalleled for quantity and in terms of quality, in view of the way the mines are situated geographically, their extraction and utilization is ideal and profitable. For more than four months experts and master technicians have been digging and working in these mountains, sending rocks to Tehran for testing and identification every day. So far they have sent more than 30,000 samples of these rocks to Tehran. Testimony and expert witnesses fully confirm that there are very extensive bauxite mines in the mountains of Bukan, with deposits estimated at up to one-third that of all of Iran's bauxite mines. In any case, the use of domestic bauxite mines appears to be even better and more profitable than the foreign ones. According to preliminary estimates, exploration has been done only in limited areas, which contain up to 50 million tons, while they may be found throughout the Mahabad and Saqez foothills. Subsequent research and exploration may show the amount to be greater. The deposits in the Bukan mine alone are more than the total in the mines at Yazd, Kerman and Qazvin. While each of Iran's three mines is rated eight, the Bukan mines are rated at 20 and above, and mines of this kind with all these deposits and high quality have never been seen anywhere in Iran.

Continuing his remarks, he discussed the industrial, electrical and home uses of aluminum. He said: Even now, for the exploration of aluminum the subject of the day is the nation's bauxite deposits, which are affiliated with the Ministry of Mines and Metals. This therefore requires that this ministry give sufficient attention to the matter and to put at the top of its agenda the systematic and technical exploration of the Bukan bauxite mines and the extraction and utilization of their deposits.

Mr. Taha also added: With the extraction and utilization of the aluminum in these mines, in addition to essential uses, every year several hundred million dollars in additional foreign exchange will be kept in the country, and in this way the Islamic nation of Iran can take effective steps for growth and construction, and in addition the unemployed youth of this deprived area will be employed. In doing this the stains of ignorance, unemployment and illness can be wiped off the faces of the deprived and oppressed people of the area, and they will radiate light and knowledge, production and work.

He then called for the construction of an aluminum factory in Bukan and for it to be given special priority.

The Bukan deputy also said: The Ministry of Roads and Transportation has also participated helpfully with the Ministry of Mines and Metals in the construction of a railroad, and has made it a priority for study and research. With thanks for the efforts of the experts which led to the exploration, identification and development of these mines, I am asking the nation's high officials in writing to encourage them. [passage omitted on praise for the Basij forces]

Concluding his remarks, the Bukan deputy submitted memos to the nation's executive officials.

Legislation

The report from RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent on yesterday's public Majles session states that the first item on the agenda was a request by a number of deputies, in accordance with Article 85 of the Constitution, to return to the Health and Health Care Commission the law to amend Article One of the Physicians and Paraphysicians Service Law and to add two more articles to it. After a discussion and an exchange of views, the deputies passed it.

The second item on the agenda was the motion to grant single-urgency status to the law to amend Note One Article Three of the Law to Send Students to Study Abroad, enacted 1/25/1364 [14 April 1985] and to add a

note to it, and after talks by deputies opposed and in favor, its first-category urgency status was put to a vote but not enacted.

The next item on the agenda was the report from the second meeting of the committee on administrative and employment affairs concerning the employment law of the national accounting council, and after discussion it was approved.

Correction and Apology

In the report on the public session of Sunday 9/4/1369 [25 November 1990], the first pre-agenda speaker was Mr. Nur Mohammad Mahmudian, the respected deputy of Kohgiluyeh and Boyer Ahmad, and the photograph of Mr. Mahmudian, Ilam deputy, was printed. Also, the correct name of the Kohgiluyeh and Boyer Ahmad deputy is Nur Mohammad Mahmudian. We hereby correct the above error, with apologies to him.

Pakistan

U.S. Aid Cut Said Connected to Afghanistan Issue

BK3101025891 Hong Kong AFP in English 2353 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 30 (AFP)—The U.S. decision to slash economic and military aid to Pakistan resulted from Washington's lack of interest in Afghanistan, the head of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) said Wednesday.

The decision was due to the changed political climate under which Pakistan had become "politically expendable" to Washington, Mr. Munir Ahmed Khan said in remarks carried by the official ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN (APP).

"Pakistan now has a low priority on the American agenda," Mr. Munir said.

The U.S. has cut its aid to Pakistan for the current fiscal year from 570 million dollars to 208 million. The amount will only be made available once Washington is satisfied that Islamabad is not developing a nuclear weapon.

Analysts here said the drastic reduction could mean the end of Pakistan's longstanding close ties with the United States, which peaked during the nine-year Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Mr. Khan said Pakistan had acted with "tremendous responsibility" in its peaceful nuclear programme and had not transferred nuclear technology to any other country.

Pakistan, which has developed the ability to enrich uranium, has repeatedly denied Western claims that its nuclear programme was geared to making an atomic bomb.

Its subcontinental rival, India, tested a nuclear device in 1974 and Pakistan has said it will sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) only if New Delhi also does so.

Mr. Khan said Pakistan remained committed to a nuclear weapon-free South Asia, but it would never accept any unilateral restrictions on its nuclear programme.

"We will never abandon our peaceful nuclear energy development programme," he said, describing U.S. objections about the programme as "discriminatory, one-sided and unfair."

Sharif on Personal Efforts To End Gulf War

BK3101154591 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has said that Pakistan is pursuing the right policy on the Gulf and will intensify efforts to bring about a cease-fire between Iraq and the allied troops. He was talking to newsmen after addressing the fourth convocation of Allame Iqbal Medical College in Lahore this afternoon.

Nawaz Sharif said the people of Pakistan want the killing of their Muslim brethren both in Saudi Arabia and Iraq to end. The prime minister said he had sincerely undertaken his peace mission to end the hostilities and that he will continue his efforts. He said many Pakistani delegations will be sent to various countries and he himself intends to go overseas to establish peace. Pakistan, he said, is in touch with both sides. Without a flexible attitude, however, peace cannot be restored in the region.

The prime minister said that tomorrow he will brief the leaders of the Islamic Democratic Alliance and other political leaders about his peace missions, its background, and outcome. He said he would also tell them about the steps being considered to end hostilities in the Gulf and the future course of action in this connection.

The prime minister said the national foreign policy is based on principles and that there is no need to change it. The prime minister assured that the Islamic Democratic Alliance government, which had come to power with the overwhelming support of the people, will never disappoint the people regarding its role in the Gulf.

President on Gulf; Military Role in Society

BK3101163891 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpts] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has said the solution to the Gulf crisis lies in the simultaneous withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and foreign personnel from the Gulf region in a manner that ensures the restoration of peace and the normalization of the situation in the shortest possible time. He was talking to

delegations of notables and religious scholars who called on him separately in Karachi today.

The president said Pakistan's policy on the Gulf is based on certain basic principles which Pakistan has always pursued under all circumstances, whether it be on the Kashmir issue or Afghanistan. The existence of small countries like Pakistan depends on these principles which cannot be compromised under any circumstances.

The president said the integrity and solidarity of all Islamic countries is an article of faith with Pakistan and its heart bleeds at the spilling of Muslim blood in any part of the world—be it in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, or Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Explaining the genesis of the government's policy on the Gulf, Ghulam Ishaq Khan said this policy has been worked out through harmonious coordination among various state institutions. It is, therefore, the well-coordinated policy of the state to which each and every state institution fully subscribes. If there is any deviation, the parliament can take notice. If certain statements in this vein are found at variance with official policy, it should be attributed to a difference of style and not of content, to different ways of expression and not of thinking.

The president categorically dispelled the impression that the armed forces are interfering in political matters. He paid rich tribute to the sense of patriotism and dedication of the armed forces. He said the armed forces are a well-organized and highly professional institution fully knowledgeable of their responsibilities and limits. They are also aware of the fact that they are not expected to interfere in political matters. The president said the armed forces also know that their interference can bring nothing but disaster for the democratic process and the country.

President Calls for Muslim Effort To End War

BK3101142491 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has said it is the collective responsibility of the Muslim community to see that hostilities in the Gulf come to an end. Talking to a delegation of prominent citizens and religious scholars in Karachi today, he said Pakistan is trying its best to end the crisis and that the prime minister's peace mission was undertaken in this spirit. The president categorically stated that Pakistan had always had good relations with all Muslim countries, particulary those in the Gulf. Pakistan, he added, was highly dismayed at the destruction of the Islamic countries.

Iraqi Envoy Says Hajj Cease-Fire 'Possible'

LD3001165591 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 30, IRNA—Iraq has prepared for a long-term war, however, Baghdad is ready to accept a ceasefire during the annual hajj ritual if the U.S.-led forces do so, Iraqi Ambassador to Pakistan Isma'il Husayn Hamoudi [title and name as received] said here today.

"Iraq has not yet deployed the major part of its air and ground forces since the war is still in its preliminary stage, and military superiority will be determined once ground forces are deployed," Hamoudi said in an interview with IRNA here.

Terming as "false and unfounded" Western media claims concerning the accuracy of the Patriot missiles, he said Iraqi missile attacks have been "very effective" and that they have inflicted significant blows on the Zionist and Saudi regimes.

Quoting informed Iraqi sources he claimed that at least one Saudi AWACS at the Dhahran Airport had been destroyed by Iraqi missiles.

Hamoudi said Iraq considers all countries which have sent troops to Saudi Arabia as accomplices in the U.S. invasion. "Even those who have sent troops under the pretext of safeguarding the holy shrines (Mecca and al-Madinah in Saudi Arabia)."

The Ankara government is also an accomplice in the aggression but Iraq has refrained from responding only due to the support of the Turkish Muslims for Iraq.

He said all Iraqi cities from north to the south were still under heavy bombardment of the U.S.-led forces, and most of the residential and educational centers as well as mosques and even the holy sites in his country had been damaged.

The ambassador said 250 civilians had been killed and 300 others wounded until Monday as a result of the massive bombardments on Iraq. "Fortunately, the number of casualties is low despite the intensive bombings."

Hamoudi threatened that Iraq will continue its attacks against Israel and Saudi Arabia, and will retaliate any Zionist attack, even a likely atomic raid.

The Saudi clan will not be able to hold the hajj ceremony this year due to the presence of "Jews and non-Muslims" invited by Riyadh.

Commenting on Western reports on the number of Iraqi planes landed in Iran, Hamoudi said "they are exaggerating". Some Iraqi planes have faced emergency situations and landed in the Iranian airports. "We respect the decisions and regulations of our Muslim and neighboring country Iran," he added. Iran has said any plane from the warring sides landing in Iran for any reason will be held until the end of the hostilities.

Asked how would the Western forces justify their presence in the region if Iraq had not occupied Kuwait, Hamoudi gave IRNA a copy of a letter as well as a cassette, according to which he said the U.S. and Kuwaiti

officials in a meeting, and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Shaykh Zayid of the United Arab Emirates in a telephone conversation had prepared the grounds for the presence of the U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf before Iraq attacked Kuwait.

He said weakening the economic and military strength of Iran and Iraq was among the topics on which American and Kuwaiti officials had reached agreement before the Iraqi attack.

Yemeni Delegation Arrives for Gulf Talks

BK0102092991 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] A three-member delegation from Yemen Arab Republic arrived in Islamabad today to hold talks on ways to solve the Gulf crisis. Talking to newsmen at the airport, the leader of the delegation and (?general) state minister for parliamentary affairs, Mr. Rashid Muhammad Thabit, said he has brought a special message from his prime minister for Mr. Nawaz Sharif. The message, he said, was about the prevailing Gulf situation.

Sri Lanka

U.S. Requests for Refueling Base Considered

BK3101085091 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0720 GMT 31 Jan 91

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 31 (LANKAPUVATH)—Sri Lanka is considering individual requests by the U.S.-led coalition in the current conflict to refuel its aircraft and ships. Cabinet spokesman Minister of Plantation Industry and Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne told newsmen at the weekly cabinet briefing at the parliamentary complex in Colombo today. He said the requests had been made two to three days ago by several countries.

Mr. Wijeratne said cabinet Wednesday appointed a subcommittee comprising Prime Minister D.B. Wijetunge, Justice Minister A.C.S. Hameed, Education Minister Lalith Athulathmudali, Industries, Science and Technology Minister Ranil Wickramasinghe, Plantation Industries Minister and Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne and Foreign Minister Harold Herath to go into the request. The decision will be known within one week. Mr. Wijeratne said that earlier warships were allowed refuelling facilities in Sri Lankan ports. In view of the current situation it was thought necessary to give some guidelines to the port and airport authorities, Mr. Wijeratne said.

Four Soldiers, Three Civilians Killed in Ambush

BK2901154691 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1504 GMT 29 Jan 91

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 29 Jan (LANKAPUVATH)—Four Sri Lankan soldiers and three civilians were killed when they were ambushed by terrorists at Padaviya in the North Central Province.

Official sources told LANKAPUVATH that the army engineers and the civilians were engaged in construction work at a point between Nellumkulam and Sinhapura when they were ambushed by the terrorists at 1230 hours (local time) today.

Meanwhile, official sources said that the Mullaittivu military wing leader of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] was killed by the security forces during the current operation in that area when the Air Force attacked and destroyed a large LTTE base at Nayaru.

10 LTTE Rebels, Including Noted Leader Killed

BK0102101991 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0727 GMT 1 Feb 91

["OANA Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Feb 1 (LANKAPUVATH)—The death of LTTE's [Liberation Tiger of Tamil Eelam's] Ampara leader Castro was confirmed today by official sources.

They said the senior LTTE terrorist and another [as received] had been killed when a boat carrying them and several other terrorists had capsized while crossing the Hulanda Oya (river) in the village of Moregala at Moneragala which is just across the southern border of the Eastern Ampara District.

They said Castro had come to Moneragala District to buy provision for LTTE cadres in Ampara from outlandish villages in the thick jungle infested area. His bloated body had been discovered by villagers and later identified.

Meanwhile, four LTTE terrorists were killed Thursday [31 January] in an exchange of fire with the security forces that followed LTTE firing mortars and small arms at the army camp at Elephant Pass, the southern entrance to the Jaffna peninsula.

Five terrorists were killed in an encounter with the security forces in Kankesanthurai, the port town on the northern coast of Jaffna. The bullet riddled body of a man was found at Chittalikandi, north of Batticaloa. The victim was identified as Kandasamy. A notice placed by his body stated he had been murdered as he was an informant of the security forces.

One soldier was killed and six [words indistinct] and two policemen wounded in an LTTE landmine explosion at Vellaveli in Batticaloa Thursday. One hundred and ten

more refugees arrived in Vavuniya from Jaffna, bringing the total number of refugees there to 6,952.

President Discusses Ties With India's Shukla

BK3001163491 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1430 GMT 30 Jan 91

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 30 (LANKAPUVATH)—Indian External Affairs Minister V.C. Shukla said today that Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa's initiative towards ending the current conflict in the Persian Gulf was welcome and an impetus in efforts by the Non-aligned Movement [NAM] to bring about peace.

Mr. Shukla said this during a 90-minute meeting he had with Mr. Premadasa when he called on the Sri Lankan leader at the Presidential Secretariat in Colombo this morning.

Presidential Advisor on International Relations Bradman Weerakoon, briefing newsmen on the talks between the Sri Lankan president and the Indian external affairs minister at the Gramodaya Centre in Colombo, said Mr. Shukla had briefed Mr. Premadasa on the prospects for a NAM peace initiative based on his recent visit to Belgrade. President Premadasa's letter to Yugoslav President Boris Jovic calling for a ministerial level meeting to discuss a NAM peace initiative in the Gulf had been welcomed and had served as an impetus to restore peace in the gulf region. A meeting of NAM foreign ministers drawn from Asian, African, and Latin American countries was scheduled to be held on 4 February to decide on what step next should be taken in the NAM peace initiative. They were firm that NAM must do something to bring about an end to the conflict.

Both President Premadasa and Indian External Affairs Minister Shukla were firm that there was a particular need for NAM to do something to resolve the crisis.

Mr. Premadasa and Mr. Shukla were of the view that the present opportunity towards this end should not be missed. The world was uni-polar, not bi-polar, as earlier and the current peace moves should be welcomed by all member countries of the Nonaligned Movement.

The Sri Lankan president and the Indian external affairs minister also discussed the issues that would emerge in the aftermath of the Gulf crisis such as regional security and its structure. There were concerns about the dominance of any particular country and whether this would relate to any powers outside the region. Both India and Sri Lanka were for disarming and not arming.

The presidential advisor on international relations, Mr Weerakoon, with whom Secretary of Foreign Affairs Bernard Tilakaratna, Director General of Foreign Affairs Nihal Rodrigo and Director South Asia division C.D. Casiechetty were associated at the news briefing, said there was broad agreement on the northern and eastern problems in Sri Lanka. The whole tenor of today's talks was one of goodwill and understanding. The point came through during this morning's discussions that since Sri Lanka would chair SAARC [South Asian Association For Regional Cooperation] in 1991, decisions taken at the Male Summit should be followed up constructively. SAARC should move to liberalise trade as in Europe where there is a virtually free trade area. Country [as received] studies should be made and Sri Lanka should come up with a position paper for the next SAARC summit.

Turning to the bilateral side of this morning's talks between President Premadasa and Indian Extrnal Affairs Minister Shukla, Mr. Weerakoon said Sri Lanka and India shared the view that equality in relations between the two countries must be emphasized.

In respect to territorial integrity, security and unity, the Sri Lanka government expressed pleasure on India's enunciation of certain principles—not being a party to political disintegration in Sri Lanka, the non-use of Indian territory for anti-Sri Lankan activities, no armed forces to be sent to Sri Lanka and the presence of foreign forces in Sri Lanka, as a matter wholely in the domain of Sri Lanka.

The Indian Side was briefed in detail on the steps taken by the Sri Lankan government to restore peace and normalcy in the north and east, and the resolution of the ethnic problem. India had given all credit to Sri Lanka and it was pleased with the process and procedures adopted by President Premadasa with regards the devolution package. The statutes and constitution were correct. India gave Sri Lanka all credit for this. India had stated that the Tamil groups wanted the implementation of devolution made quicker.

India was also pleased that the Sri Lankan government had allocated 13 billion rupees for provincial councils in the 1991 budget.

It was agreed that the dialogue with non LTTE Tamil groups should continue within and outside the APC [All Party Conference] for agreed positions to isolate the LTTE.

It was also agreed at this morning's talks between President Premadasa and Indian External Affairs Minister Shukla that in addition to military action there should finally be a political solution to the problem.

Mr. Weerakoon said India had referred to 200,000 refugees. Sri Lanka had said the northwest island of Mannar could be used as a transit centre. It was felt it was more desirable that refugees should return to their homes which were liberated and safe for them to live in. The refugees should be motivated to return in small groups. In the context of these refugees Sri Lanka would need to have names, addresses and numbers. India agreed to this position.

It was also felt that Sri Lankan officials should have access to refugee camps in India and help motivate the refugees and assure them conditions were conducive for their return. Mr. Weerakoon said Sri Lanka's deputy high commissioner was Tamil speaking.

There was good interaction between the Sri Lankan Navy and the Indian Coastguard regarding smuggling. Sri Lanka appreciated the steps taken by the Indian Government and Tamil Nadu in this respect. Smuggling should be totally interdicted.

Mr. Weerakoon said the trade and economic committee had been upgraded to a joint commission at foreign minister level and two sub-commissions —one on trade, commerce and industry and the other on social and cultural matters. A preparatory meeting of the ministerial commission will be held at foreign secretary level in New Delhi in March this year. There was a big imbalance in trade between the two countries. India had removed the restrictions on the import of cloves and coconut oil from Sri Lanka. Joint arrangements were being made for the marketing of tea. The presidential advisor on international relations said it was advantageous to Sri Lanka to purchase pharmaceuticals from India which cost one fourth the price elsewhere, such as in Singapore.

He said there were 20 crores of rupees by way of credit from India and five had been utilised to purchase buses. The thought had been expressed that railway wagons to transport oil be purchased for a sum of 12 crores rupees. Sri Lanka and India had agreed to collaborate for the exploration of oil in the Gulf Of Mannar. This was being done between the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and the National Gas Corporation of India for mutual benefit.

Mr. Weerakoon said the subject of the oil tank farm in Trincomalee had been raised and the matter was being examined by Sri Lanka.

Strengthening Ties Discussed

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[Text] India is committed to strengthen bilateral relations and develop mutual cooperation for the common good of the people of India and Sri Lanka. Speaking at a dinner hosted by Sri Lankan foreign minister in Colombo last night, the external affairs minister, Mr. V.C. Shukla, said he looks forward to continuation of dialogue at the political lavel. He said that India is encouraged by the recent developments to end the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. Mr. Shukla said that political framework created by Sri Lanka on the basis of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement provides a broad base for a reasonable and durable settelement. He said India is also interested in the early return of the Sri Lankan refugees. The external affairs minister met the Sri Lankan prime minister, Mr. Wijetunge, this morning. He is meeting President Premadasa later today.

Shukla, Herat Issue Joint Statement

BK3101150691 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1240 GMT 31 Jan 91

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 31 (LANKAPUVATH)—India's Minister for External Affairs V.C. Shukla and Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Harold Herat expressed their concern that terrorist and separatist activities are serrous threats to peace, security and development in their respective countries.

In a joint statement issued by the Governments of Sri Lanka and India today, the two ministers reiterated the commitment of their governments to respect each others unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The ministers agreed to intensify their efforts to prevent smuggling of contraband and arms between the two countries.

The following is the text of the joint statement:

His Excellency Mr. Vidya Charan Shukla, minister of external affairs of India, visited Sri Lanka from 28-31 January 1991 at the invitation of Honorary Harold Herat, foreign minister of Sri Lanka.

The minister of external affairs of India called on His Excellency Ranasinghe Premadasa, president of Sri Lanka.

During the visit, the minister of external affairs of India met D.B. Wijetunga, prime minister; M.H. Mohamed, speaker of the parliament; A.C.S. Hameed, minister of justice; Ranjan Wijeratne, minister of plantation industries and minister of state for defense; S. Thondaman, minister of tourism and rural industrial development; and A.R. Mansoor, minister of trade and commerce. The minister of external affairs also met former president, J.R. Jayewardene and Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, leader of the opposition.

The minister of external affairs of India and the foreign minister of Sri Lanka discussed current global developments, including the Gulf crisis. It was agreed that the ramifications of the crisis extended well beyond the region and seriously affected many developing countries, including India and Sri Lanka. The two ministers agreed to coordinate efforts to achieve a settlement of all related issues in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions and the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. The practical steps that could be taken to develop initiatives taken by India and Sri Lanka as well as other nonaligned countries were discussed in detail. The foreign minister of Sri Lanka briefed the minister of external affairs on the initiative by President Premadasa for the convening of the ministerial committee of the nonaligned countries to consider the Gulf situation. The minister of external affairs of India welcomed the initiative and briefed his counterpart on his recent discussions in Belgrade and India's proposals on the Gulf situation.

The two ministers reviewed the progress in the implementation of SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] programmes. They welcomed the decisions taken at the fifth summit in Male to streamline the working methods of the association, increase its effectiveness and to make SAARC more responsive to the needs of the people of South Asia. They agreed to cooperate closely for the success of the sixth summit in Colombo.

The two ministers agreed that in the framework of regional cooperation among SAARC countries in the field of trade, manufactures and services, likely to emerge from the national studies on the subject, the two countries would cooperate to include in it the concept of a free trade area, particularly for primary commodities. Simultaneously, efforts should be made to promote trade at the bilateral level. In a spirit of reciprocity, the two ministers reiterated the commitment of their governments to respect each others unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity. They further reiterated that their respective territories would not be used for any activity prejudicial to the security and national interest of the other country. In this context, the two ministers agreed to intensify their efforts to prevent smuggling of contraband and arms between the two countries.

The two ministers expressed their concern that terrorist and separatist activities are serious threats to peace, security and development in their respective countries. They agreed to coordinate necessary measures in the context of the SAARC convention on suppression of terrorism.

The foreign minister of Sri Lanka briefed the minister of external affairs of India on the situation in Sri Lanka and explained the constitutional, administrative and other measures taken by the government to restore, peace and normalcy and to guarantee the safety and security of all communities, including providing opportunities for their economic and social development. The foreign minister of Sri Lanka also detailed the threats to this process posed by the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] which still remained unwilling [sentence incomplete as received].

Shukla Meets Other Officials

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[Text] The visiting Indian minister of external affairs, Vidya Charan Shukla, met the minister of justice and higher education, A.C.S. Hameed, in Colombo yesterday. The emphasis during this meeting was on the need to remove all obstacles that have occasionally affected traditional ties of good will and understanding between the two countries. There was also a consensus on this need and the approach to be adopted. Mr. Hameed expressed the hope that Mr. Shukla's visit will pave the way for a new dialogue between the two countries with great appreciation and understanding of each other's problems.

Mr. Shukla later met the minister of plantation industries and state minister of defense, Ranjan Wijeratne. The two ministers focussed on several matters in a cordial and very friendly atmosphere. The talks dealt with the plantation and defense sectors with particular reference to the activities of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] in Sri Lanka. Mr. Wijeratne explained to the Indian minister in detail about the LTTE activities and the steps taken in that regard. Mr. Shukla assured Mr. Wijeratne that everything possible will be done to avoid assistance to the LTTE movement by India.

Mr. Shukla also called on the former president, J.R. Jayewardene, at his residence.

The visiting Indian minister paid a courtesy call on President Ranasinghe Premadasa at the Presidential Secretariat today.

Peace With LTTE Discussed

BK3001130891 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. V.C. Shukla, has made it clear to the Sri Lankan government that violent and military means will not solve the ethnic problem in the island. During his 90-minute talks with President Premadasa in Colombo today, Mr. Shukla requested him to take a bold step and launch a peace initiative to solve the issue through negotiations.

Briefing newsmen after the meeting, the foreign secretary, Mr. Muchkund Dubey said it was stressed that any success in the Sri Lankan government's efforts to solve the problem depends on fulfilling the legitimate aspirations of its Tamil minority through a devolution [of powers] package. India also insisted that the Sri Lankan refugees should be taken back to their homes.